

The Middlebury Campus

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SGA Addresses Club Sports Funding

By Tess Weitzner
Staff Writer

The Student Government Association (SGA) voted to pass the Club Sports Funding Methodology bill on Sunday, March 13. The proposal, sponsored by Sophomore Senator Colin Boyle '18, calls for the creation of a committee tasked with developing alternative methods of funding club sports before a March 2017 deadline.

Currently, about 350 students are active in club sports including the crew, rugby and water polo teams. Funding for these teams is predominantly derived from the \$410 Student Activities Fee (SAF) that every student is required to pay at the beginning of the year in addition to the comprehensive fee covering tuition and housing — the Department of Athletics does not contribute funds for these teams. To cover additional costs, these teams rely on alumni donations, extensive fundraising initiatives and personal contributions.

Boyle's proposal will seek to bridge the deficit between the full operating costs of these teams and a per capita funding scheme, like the one proposed by SGA Treasurer and Chair of the SGA Finance Committee Aaron de Toledo '16.

De Toledo's proposed bill would reform the methods in which the Finance Committee allocates funds to club sports by operating on a per capita basis, calling for a tier system in

which clubs are designated certain funding caps based on the number of participants and the general cost of the sport. Sports such as the equestrian, crew and sailing teams would comprise the first tier, and their funding would be capped at the maximum \$410 per person.

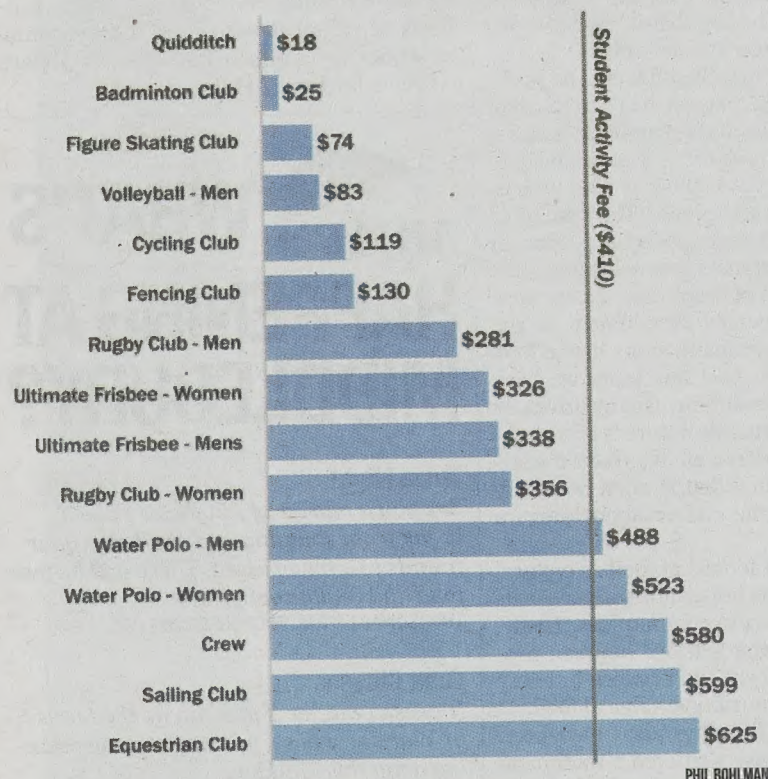
In turn, funding for the club sports recognized in the first tier — which tend to require the most expensive equipment — would be cut by nearly a third of their current levels. Changes in this form of funding would have little effect for teams in lower tiers such as cycling, fencing and badminton, which are not as costly.

"We try to strike that balance as best we can, but given the fact that we do hear criticism, we want to create a more transparent process, but also a more equitable process," de Toledo said. "It's not a strict equality thing by any means. However, it's capping [the funds] a little bit by kind of balancing that spectrum of equality and meeting everyone's needs."

Under Boyle's bill, the proposal detailed by de Toledo will not take effect and no changes will be made to the current funding methodology. The new committee will be tasked with finding alternative funding solutions and will be comprised of the head and two members of the Finance Committee, one treasurer or representative from each individual club sport and

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Funding for Club Sports Per Student



ANNUAL CHILI FESTIVAL HELD IN TOWN



ANTHEA VITA VIRAGH

The Middlebury community gathered on Main St. last Saturday, March 12, to celebrate the 8th Annual Vermont Chili Festival. Students and community members tasted the 50 different kinds of chili and voted for their favorite. Local restaurant Sabai Sabai won Best Overall Chili.

College Joins Consortium Supporting Syrian Refugees

By Elizabeth Sawyer
Contributing Writer

The College joined the Institute for International Education's (IIE) Syria Consortium last week. The College and the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey will be two of the 50 schools in the consortium committed to admitting refugees from the Syrian civil war and providing them with scholarships.

The IIE is one of the world's largest international education and training organizations. The independent nonprofit aims to improve and increase access to education worldwide by organizing scholarship, training and exchange programs.

President of the College Laurie L. Patton told *The Campus* that she believes "we need to do everything we can to make higher education accessible across the globe, especially at an institution like Middlebury."

Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of the College Katy Smith Abbott views the decision as "consistent with our institutional mission, both at the undergraduate college and at Monterey."

Patton is "thrilled that Middlebury students took the initiative for Syrian students in need," referring to the Go/Refuge movement started by Jeff Holland '19 and Travis Sanderson '19 in Dec. 2015. The two began their call for the College to increase its involvement in the Syrian refugee crisis with opinion pieces in *The Campus*.

According to Holland, he and Sanderson, "Realized that we are members of a financially well-endowed, privileged community, and we thought we should use our resources for something important. Something like the biggest humanitarian catastrophe of our time."

Last summer, when Sanderson lived in Vienna, Austria, he witnessed the local community unite to donate resources to the refugees

in the area — he participated by donating food. Holland said Sanderson's experience moved him to join Sanderson in his efforts to compel the College to do more to support refugees. "We're not truly an international institution if we don't partake in major world issues in whatever way we can," Holland said in an email to *The Campus*.

Holland and Sanderson's initial petition at Go/Refuge has collected around 100 signatures to date. The pair expanded their base of active supporters by urging those students who signed the petition to write opinion pieces of their own, and by reaching out to professors and student organizations. This proved successful; according to Sanderson, "all of the supporters who wrote articles have taken on larger roles" in the movement, and Go/Refuge has been endorsed by the College's International Student Organization, Amnesty International, Middlebury Students for Bernie Sanders and Professor of German Roman Graf.

The College's decision to join the IIE's Syria Consortium comes as a long-awaited victory for all of the active participants in the Go/Refuge movement. Sophie Hudson, an exchange student from the University of Nottingham and author of the op-ed "A Call for Empathy," felt an impetus to get involved with the movement because of her unique perspective as an exchange student. She questions the injustice in the drastic difference between her educational experience and the current state of education for Syrian refugees.

"Why am I welcomed here with open arms but people whose whole education had stopped and been put on hold aren't?" she asked. Hudson said that her main motivation for participating in Go/Refuge was her belief that "no one should have to halt their education."

Both Hudson and Rebecca Duras '19, the social media coordinator for Go/Refuge, acknowledge

that while the College's membership in the Consortium is not a complete solution to the current state of education for Syrian refugees, according to Duras it is "a big step towards making at least one refugee's dreams come true."

After solidifying support from members of the community like Duras and Hudson, Sanderson and Holland met with Patton during her office hours. Holland reports that Patton "was extremely open-minded and receptive to our ideas," and that he and Sanderson "can't thank her enough for hearing out what we had to say and for acting on it."

Members of the Go/Refuge movement have been vocal in their belief that Middlebury is in a unique position to make an impact. Shaheen Bharwani '19, author of the op-ed "Go/Refuge: The Syrian Academic Emergency," wrote in an email to *The Campus* that he "can think of few institutions that are as well equipped to act on this issue as Middlebury College," citing the school's large endowment as "helpful in the case of refugees who require financial support," and the school's renowned Arabic program as "hardly inconsequential when considering native Arabic-speaking refugees potentially facing language barriers in any host country."

The group also argues that the existence of the Middlebury C.V. Starr School Abroad in Amman, Jordan, at the University of Jordan, should make the College's involvement in the crisis fairly easy to initiate. "[The program in Jordan] gives us an additional advantage," Smith Abbott said. "Not only is our staff there able to work directly with any promising candidates, but they are also able to help guide the fundraising efforts of students here in Vermont."

Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Schools Jeffrey Cason, views the School in

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STUDENT TESTS M&C TRUCK, MOVES CLOSER TO SUCCESS PAGE 13



SEXPECTATIONS DISCUSSES MIDDLEBURY HOOKUP CULTURE PAGE 14

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

By Nick Garber
Community Council Correspondent
& Staff Writer

Community Council met on Tuesday, March 8, and began with a brief presentation by Associate Dean for Judicial Affairs and Student Life Karen Guttentag, and Associate Dean for Judicial Affairs and Student Life AJ Place. Each year, as mandated by the College Handbook, two Community Council members serve on the committee to select the student members of the next year's Judicial Boards.

"It's a really interesting way to get a perspective on the community and what people's concerns are," Guttentag said. "Participating in this is a really exciting and enlightening lens into how the community is working and into how different members of the community experience it."

Next, the Council welcomed Alden Cowap '17 and Matt Witkin '16.5, who serve as President and Vice President of the Chromatic social house. Cowap and Witkin visited the Council to propose an amendment to the Social House Fall Term Housing Policy Regulations.

The current regulations allow no more than two sophomores to live in Tavern or Chromatic houses, and no more than one sophomore to live in the Mill or Xenia; Cowap and Witkin proposed increasing these maximums to six and two, respectively.

"Social houses provide a very deliberate and diverse community experience," Cowap said. Cowap also cited the ability of social houses to facilitate campus leadership. "By allowing sophomores to live in the house, it makes them more engaged and active members, which will lead to better leadership, and to them wanting to take on leadership positions at a younger age so we don't just have juniors and seniors."

In the end, the Council was convinced, and voted to approve Cowap and Witkin's recommendation by a vote of 13 to 1, with 2 abstaining.

On Tuesday, March 15, Council members spent most of the meeting brainstorming potential projects to focus on for the remainder of the semester. Among numerous other ideas, Emma Bliska '18 suggested instituting "protected breaks," meaning that assignments could not be due immediately after a school vacation.

Ilana Gratch '16 proposed allowing faculty and staff to eat at dining halls at all times. (Currently, faculty are only allowed to eat once per week with a student, and no such program exists for staff).

Vignesh Ramachandran '18 suggested a reform of the counseling services at Parton Health Center; specifically, Ramachandran cited numerous students of color who feel that they have received inadequate counseling by the mostly-white staff. "A lot of my friends who can afford it go to counselors in town, who they rate better," he added.

Finally, the Council reviewed a list compiled by Bliska detailing possible solutions to student stress; a continuation of the Council's concentration on the subject during the Fall semester. The list had been compiled from suggestions made by various Council members, though each idea had not necessarily been voted on individually by the entire Council. If approved, this list would have been sent directly to the working group on stress established by President of the College Laurie L. Patton.

In the end, however, Council members expressed reservations over endorsing a document whose recommendations had never been approved individually, and elected to postpone further action until next week's meeting.

Student-Run Bar Night Held at 51 Main

By Leo Stevenson
Contributing Writer

Last Thursday, March 10, several students hosted their own bar night at 51 Main, an event they hope will grow into an enduring aspect of the College's social scene. The restaurant space was set up for the evening as a casual bar environment, with drinks served by student bartenders and music by a student DJ. Despite the inclement weather, the space was filled to capacity; over 280 students attended throughout the night.

The event, envisioned and planned by Graham Shaw '16.5 in collaboration with the 51 Main Student Advisory Committee, was intended as a proof of concept for Shaw. "I envisioned it as something different than the offerings that already exist...a low-key, adult space where students can hang out or grab a casual drink, and not have to compete with the music to hear one another," Shaw said.

The high turnout and revenue demonstrated significant student demand for that space. Shaw and the Committee plan to continue hosting bar nights, smoothing out their operations and eventually expanding the cocktail menu. Aside from some calls for more bartenders in the future, students responded favorably. Many praised the "communal vibe" and resemblance to an "urban" bar scene. Students also responded favorably to the diversity in grades and social groups drawn to the event.

Shaw explained that he came up with the

idea for such a space last year after being frustrated by issues inherent to the College's social scene.

He criticized the repetitiveness of party options on campus. "I felt like the school wasn't doing a good job of cultivating either a fun social scene or a healthy drinking atmosphere," Shaw said. "Atwater and social houses in particular don't have the same vibe. They're dark and sweaty, and it's not like they really foster conversation or lead to healthy relationships."

Shaw added that the monotony of available parties can contribute to an unhealthy drinking culture. Ideally, he envisioned this bar night would provide a middle ground. It would be well-lit with softer music and a place where students could have casual conversations while drinking without feeling pressured to binge-drink. In this vein, the 51 Main bar night is an attempt to foster a more adult, relaxed nightlife option with a healthier drinking culture.

51 Main became the site for the student-run event after Shaw published an op-ed in *Middbeat* in November describing a lack of nightlife options on campus and calling for "a space that is by students and for students — a space designed by students, decorated with student art, maintained by student workers and serving the student body."

In response to that piece and a pilot event in McCullough, Shaw was contacted by Dining Services, who also run 51 Main, to discuss the possibility of using their space.

Madeleine Raber '16 helped to form the 51 Main Student Advisory Committee over J-term, which did preliminary research on how students would like to see the space used. Students responded with overwhelming demand for a nightlife space, and event planning went forward from there.

"As a space that was originally intended for students, it is clear that it is not serving this purpose," she said. "[This] is why the demonstrated interest in the student-run bar was so encouraging. The lack of nightlife options at Middlebury creates a great opportunity for 51 Main to provide such a space, whilst also increasing student traffic on a regular basis."

Beyond adding more bartenders to increase service, the Committee plans to limit the next bar night to students aged 21 and over, citing the difficulties of having to monitor a mixed-age crowd to prevent underage drinking in the space. The next bar night is planned for March 24, where these changes will be implemented.

The 51 Main Student Advisory Committee has other ideas to expand student use of 51 Main down the line. They hope to organize ticketed events such as beer or wine tastings and collaborations with other student organizations such as WRMC for student DJs, WOMP for live music or *Blackbird* for readings.

For now, however, Shaw said, "Our priority is to have the most fundamental aspect of our operation down, which is making sure that we can run a legitimate, fast, well-organized bar."

Rohatyn Center Discusses Global Food Insecurities

By Sarah Asch
Contributing Writer

The fourth annual International and Interdisciplinary Conference, titled "Food Insecurity in a Globalized World: The Politics and Culture of Food Systems" was hosted at the College's Rohatyn Center for Global Affairs on March 10-12. The conference explored the politics, economics and history of food insecurity and included presentations by Middlebury professors and guest lecturers from around the world. According to Tamar Mayer, the Robert R. Churchill Professor of Geosciences who directs both the Rohatyn Center and the International and Global Studies Program, the conference organizing committee selected the 17 papers presented out of 54 submissions.

The topic of global food insecurity was chosen in 2013 when Mayer and the Rohatyn Center Steering Committee planned conference topics until 2020.

"Food insecurity is probably one of the most important social problems of our time," Mayer said. "Students need to understand that food insecurity is constructed. It's not natural. A lot of it is political — it's the economic systems that created it, it's the neoliberal policies that created it. And our students are either going to challenge those, or going to participate in them, or both."

Lee Schlenker '16 attended the conference and enjoyed the variety of perspectives. "It was nice to have professors who came to Middlebury who had very different purposes or missions with their research," Schlenker said. "Even if I don't really agree with all of the things that were said I think it's nice to have that interdisciplinary perspective."

Jessie Mazer, a graduate student at the University of Vermont, gave a presentation on local issues of food insecurity. Her talk focused on how undocumented migrant dairy farmworkers in Vermont struggle to feed their families. Mazer highlighted the difficulties Mexican farmworkers face in Vermont, which she identified as the second whitest state in the nation. Mazer posited that government surveys do not capture the full extent of food insecurity among migrants because people often say they can afford certain foods that they cannot access.

"[The migrant workers are] saying that 'Yes, we have enough money to access food but we can't go to the grocery store because we don't have transportation and when we go to the grocery store we're at risk for deportation,'" Mazer said.

On Saturday the conference turned to discussing solutions to food insecurity. The College's William R. Kenan Professor of Food

Studies Molly Anderson argued in her presentation that changes to the food system must start with grassroots movements to inspire the public interest needed to push reform onto the political agenda.

"As this permeates through society—this awareness of impacts and the influence of these legislators—then cultural values and beliefs start changing," Anderson said.

David Cleveland, an environmental studies professor at the University of California, Santa Barbara, presented his work looking at the intersection between food justice and climate justice. His research focused on the medical and environmental benefits of healthier diets. The alternative diets had less red and processed meats and less processed grain than the average American diet. They included more vegetables, beans and fruits. By adopting healthier diets Cleveland suggested Americans could save billions on healthcare costs and reduce green house emissions related to food production.

The conference ended with Angélica Segura '16 and Francesca Conde '17 providing a summary in which they identified six overarching themes. The first theme was individual choice versus broader food safety.

"A lot of the topics highlighted the problematic trade off that has often occurred when the rights of the citizens are sacrificed in order to eradicate food insecurity," Segura said.

Next, they discussed the way food insecurity relates to class and gender. The third topic explored how food insecurity is the product of systematic disinvestment in low-income communities and lack of institutional state support. The fourth theme they outlined was the need to identify dominant actors in the food discussion. "In the past few years we have witnessed a seismic shift in farming driven by new technologies and the nature of such technologies means that not all of us have the scientific understanding that is often necessary to participate in the conversation," Segura said.

The fifth theme looked at food as cultural capital by noting the importance of social networks in food insecure communities. Lastly, the pair explored the tensions between producers and consumers and between industry efficiency and the nutritional value of food.

"Over the past few days ideas have been put forward that have shattered a traditional understanding of food insecurity and have exposed it for what it really is," Segura said. "[It is] a phenomenological experience, a historical product and often the result of trade policies and power interest."

For a full list of presenters, presentation topics and to see videos of the panels visit the Rohatyn Center website.

COLLEGE TALKS SYRIAN REFUGEES

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Jordan as integral to the partnership.

"We have staff in Jordan who are willing and able to interview potential applicants to Middlebury as undergrads or to the Middlebury Institute as graduate students," Cason said.

Director of the School in Jordan Kerstin Wilsch will be at the College for two days this upcoming weekend, and is planning to meet with Sanderson and Holland on March 20 to discuss the College's role in providing financial support for Syrian refugees in Jordan. Wilsch echoed the sentiments of the Go/Refuge movement. "We can't stop the conflict in Syria, but we can render help to those suffering from it," she said.

Sanderson praised Patton and Abbott for going "beyond our expectations in putting Middlebury on the moral road in the Syrian refugee crisis." However, he said that more could be done, such as raising awareness of the Syria Consortium in order to motivate students at other schools to begin similar movements. "With millions of refugees who need safety, many of whom need education, there is always work to be done," Holland said.

MCAB's WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MIDDLEBURY?

Trivia Night

Are you a master of fun facts? Take a break from studying and challenge your friends to a trivia night. There will be free food and really cool prizes!
THURSDAY AT 9 P.M. IN CROSSROADS CAFE

Yoga Classes

It doesn't matter if you can do the Lotus or Warrior 2 pose, join us for some relaxing yoga this Monday.
MONDAY AT 7 P.M. IN MITCHELL GREEN LOUNGE

MCAB Speaker Jia Jiang

Jia is an entrepreneur, blogger, speaker and writer, with a book in progress. Come hear him talk this Tuesday, 3/22.
TUESDAY AT 8 P.M. IN WILSON HALL

SGA BILL SEEKS NEW FUNDING SOLUTIONS FOR CLUB SPORTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

two members of the Senate.

However, if this committee does not find a feasible solution by March 2017, the SGA and the Finance Committee will pass de Toledo's plan.

Nathaniel Wiener '18, treasurer of the sailing team, said, "If the budget goes into effect as proposed, we will either be forced to cease being a competitive team or raise our team dues to \$300 to 400 per participant ... [this increased fee] will likely lead to decreasing first-year enrollment next year and, in turn, decreased funding for the club going forward since we will have fewer competing members."

Clara Sternberg '19 of the equestrian team voiced similar concerns that cuts to team funding would force membership to be more exclusive, allowing only those who can afford an increased membership fee to participate.

"The prospect of limiting beginner participation would go against our desire to bring people into the sport, especially those who have not had the opportunity to ride before coming to [the College]," she said. "It is likewise unfair to ask team members to pick up the funding discrepancy by paying more out of pocket when we already spend hundreds of dollars to be able to ride."

Members of the crew team also ex-

pressed apprehension towards de Toledo's proposal and, along with the equestrian and sailing teams, attended the SGA meeting on March 13. Senators opened the floor for discussion of the proposals raised by de Toledo and Boyle. When the senate voted to pass Boyle's proposal, loud applause ensued from all three teams.

"We are very happy that the Senate chose to pass this proposal and not institute a funding cap for this year, as it will give us time to work with them to find a better solution," President of Middlebury Rowing Erika Sloan '16 said. "We understand the difficult position that the SGA is in — ideally, at least some of our funding would be covered by the administration/athletics and not fall to the SGA. Though the school has been unwilling to do so in the past, we hope that the committee formed as a result of Boyle's proposal will enable us to move towards that goal in a clear and organized way."

She continued, "Drastically cutting our funding, as the original proposal would have done, would have had a devastating impact on our ability to remain the team that provides such an important opportunity to so many Middlebury students. With no other options, we would have been forced to raise our membership fees. This is the absolute last thing we want to do, as our goal is keep row-



Members from the crew, equestrian and sailing teams attended the March 13 SGA Senate Meeting in opposition to a proposal that would drastically cut their funds.

ing at Middlebury open and accessible to anyone who wishes to learn the sport and be part of the team. We already stretch our gift account thin providing as much financial aid as we possibly can, and raising the participation fee would likely also raise barriers to inclusivity that are simply unacceptable."

Boyle, who is also a member of the

crew team, was thrilled by the decision.

"I think a lot of club sports just encountered the reality that they almost just lost a significant amount of their budget," he said. "I think it will light a little fire, and I think that club sports will need a lot of momentum behind finding a solution because I think we know administration needs to be pushed."

THE Campus Voice

from The Middlebury Campus

hosted by nathaniel wiener

sundays 8pm - 9pm

live on **WRMC**

91.1 FM Middlebury College Radio

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Toxic Chemical Enters Private Wells in N. Bennington

Harry Cramer
Local Editor

Last Wednesday, March 9, Governor Shumlin visited North Bennington to hold a town hall style meeting with residents and discuss the ongoing water contamination crisis. Shumlin announced that water in the Bennington area had been contaminated by a carcinogen known as perfluorooctanoic acid, or PFOA, and assured residents that his administration would make fighting the contamination a top priority.

"We are not going to desert you," Shumlin told the concerned on-lookers. "We're going to make sure that we not only get through the short-term challenges figuring out how we get clean water to folks on a permanent basis, not just the stuff for trucking in, then figure out how we hold whoever did this accountable."

The spill can be traced back to a Chemfab factory, which was acquired by Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics in 2000, and shut down just two years later. Saint Gobain is currently embroiled in a similar PFOA contamination crisis in Hoosick Falls, New York, for which it has been fighting a class-action lawsuit since September of 2015. The lawsuit, spearheaded by the law firm Weitz & Luxenberg, will now include evidence from North Bennington.

In the past, PFOA had a variety of commercial uses, but was phased out by the Environmental Protection Agency due to its carcinogenic qualities. At the Chemfab factory in North Bennington, it was used to apply protective coatings onto fabric.

Saint-Gobain released the following statement following the PFOA incident:

"We are not going to desert you. We're going to make sure that we not only get through the short-term challenges [but] then figure out how we hold whoever did this accountable."

PETER SHUMLIN (D)
GOVERNOR OF VERMONT

"We understand that tests commissioned by the Department of Environmental Conservation showed no detection of PFOA in the public water system for Bennington. The tests did reveal elevated levels in three private wells, as well as two commercial sites. Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics has contacted state and local officials, and has offered to fund the provisioning of bottled water and point-of-use filtration systems for these locations, and others that might be affected. We will cooperate

with all local, state and federal officials as they investigate and manage this issue."

A spokeswoman for Saint-Gobain said that the company followed strict environmental protocols during its two years of operation in North Bennington. Officials at both the Department for Environmental Conservation and at the Governor's Office will focus on testing wells in the surrounding mile and a half diameter.

Chuck Schwer, the Director of the Vermont DEC's waste management and prevention division, explained that this 1.5 mile diameter was an "educated guess."

"We aren't sure exactly of how the chemical was released into the environment," Schwer explained, "Was it an airborne-type problem, or was it a release at the factory that just got into groundwater? Looking at the topography, understanding a little bit the properties of the chemical, we developed the mile and a half."

Getting the results from these tests can take weeks, and it is still unclear as to the full extent of the contamination. Schwer urged residents to reach out to the division if they owned a private well in the area.

"The first step is figuring out exactly how widespread the problem is," Taylor Dobbs, a reporter for VPR, said in an interview. "Once they know that, then they know ... where to target their efforts and who they really need to help."

One resident living near the plant, Jim Goodine, argued that the smell radiating from it had been a problem since the mid-1970s. Although he had complained to the company that the smell was so bad at times he could not leave his house, his complaints led nowhere.

"You know, I'm a carpenter," said Goodine in an interview with VPR. "And these were big guys, industrialists with factories in different places, and they show up in Brooks Brother suits, and you feel intimidated by people like that."

"In hindsight I'm kicking myself as hard as I can ... I feel partly responsible that I didn't go to the state and say, 'You have to do something here. You have to find out what's going on.'"

In an effort to better educate the public about the developing situation, both the Vermont Department of Health and the

Department for Environmental Conservation (DEC) have launched websites on the situation in North Bennington. Bennington College also received a grant from the National Science Foundation Rapid Response to conduct original research on PFOA, and will offer a six-week course on water contamination and how to manage it in the spring and fall. The class will examine the PFOA molecule chemically and how this chemical might move through soil and groundwater.

"We're going to have to learn something about how [PFOA] becomes introduced to the groundwater and how it migrates through the groundwater, and how you ultimately wind up getting it out and restoring the safe water supply," said Tim Schroeder, a professor of earth science at Bennington College.

Still, for residents in the North Bennington area, the PFOA crisis is an immediate one. Many residents are still in limbo, awaiting the results of a week-long test for the carcinogen in their private wells. In the meantime, Saint-Gobain has offered to pay for their bottled water.



COURTESY VPR

The Chemfab factory made material for large corporate projects, like the roof of Denver Airport.

Are Americans Still 'Feeling the Bern?'

By Edward Acosta
Contributing Writer

Super Tuesday is called "super" for a reason. Out of all the primaries, March 1 alone awards candidates on the Democratic side a total of 862 delegates, the largest chunk given in one day. Winning a majority on Super Tuesday is therefore a strong indicator of a candidate's chance of nomination. Bernie Sanders, longtime senator of Vermont, suffered heavy hits on March 1 when he won only four of 11 states. After this loss, it is fair to ask: Are Americans still feeling the Bern?

Let us do some delegate math. The modest lead Hillary Clinton had before Tuesday, a mere 61 delegates, grew to a total of 233 following the big day. In a race where all delegates are given on a proportional basis — the Republican race is the only one with winner-takes-all states — the growing gap might become unsurmountable if the trend continues.

Adding to this worry is the superdelegate format the Democrats have. Superdelegates are differentiated from normal delegates by their ability to freely choose who to vote for prior to the nomination, alongside the added liberty

of being able to change their minds.

This serves as a double-edged sword for Sanders, who could recapture some of the 465 superdelegates currently pledged to Clinton, or lose them entirely, which sets the true delegate gap after Super Tuesday at 673. From a mathematical perspective, March 1 was not a good day for Sanders.

However, in the aftermath of Super Tuesday, Sanders' Campaign Manager Jeff Weaver remained optimistic about the future of the campaign.

"We have a winning hand in this game, and... [are] going to continue to play it for a while," Weaver

said. To him, the fact that Clinton's lead increased was not as important as Sanders' victories; Sanders was able to win almost all five of the states he originally set out to win. Sanders only lost Massachusetts, by a very close margin.

In Vermont, where Sanders won all the delegates up for grabs on March 1st, residents are enthusiastic and proud of having their senator compete on the national stage.

Miguel Fernandez, the Chief Diversity Officer at the College and a proud Vermonter, is not surprised that Bernie is shaking up the political campaign. In

an interview conducted following Super Tuesday, he explained that Sanders' appeal stems from his character.

"He's very genuine, he's himself, [and] he speaks it how it is. There's no BS with Bernie," Fernandez said.

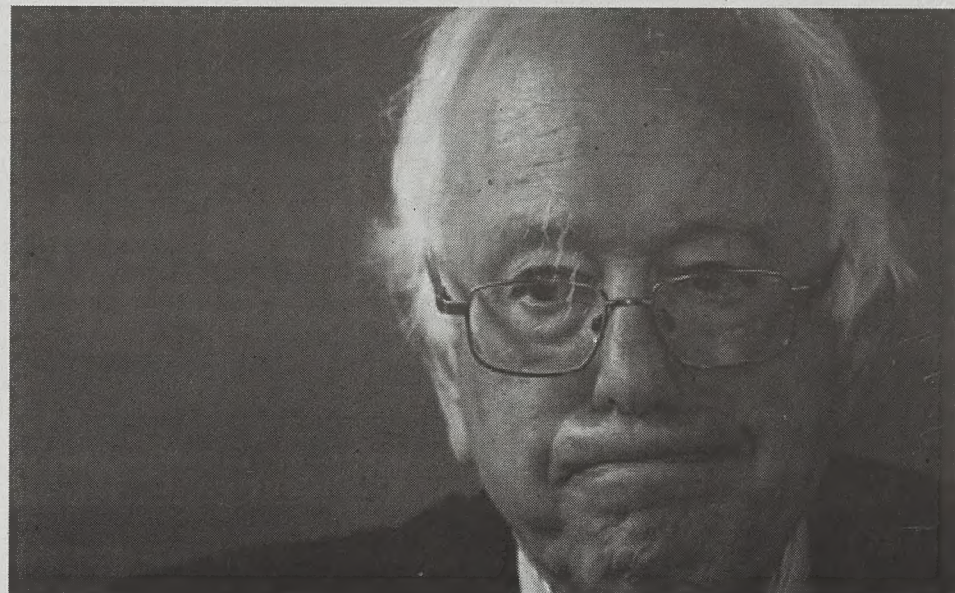
Even in Washington, President Obama commented on the authenticity of Sanders' message. Obama described Sanders as someone with "the virtue of saying exactly what he believes ... with great passion ... and fearless[ness]."

Will Sanders' campaign succeed in the near future? It isn't guaranteed, but

it is also not impossible. Currently, the campaign is riding a wave of momentum following a major upset in Michigan six days ago.

As Fernandez noted towards the end of the interview: "Everybody wrote Bernie off before things even started ... and then he started to win."

Ultimately, the 74-year-old senator from Vermont has captured the imagination of thousands, brought out younger voters in droves to election, and still has a chance of possibly pulling off a historical upset in the ongoing nomination.



COURTESY NBC

Democratic presidential candidate Bernie Sanders faces an uphill battle against Hillary Clinton.

Middlebury Celebrates 8th Annual Chili Festival

By Rebecca Walker
Local Editor

On Saturday, March 12, the 8th annual Vermont Chili Festival was held in downtown Middlebury. From 1 to 4 p.m. the sun was shining and the street was filled with around six thousand Vermonters on the hunt for chili from top restaurants and caterers, as well as good entertainment provided by local street performers. About 40 types of chili were packed into tents along the street, and each business was expected to supply around 15 to 30 gallons of their specialty chilies in order to enter the competition. Sabai Sabai emerged as the victor of this year's festival, taking the cake (or perhaps the chili) as their kitchen sink Thai flavored chili won the title of "Best Overall" and a cash prize of \$1,000. This was the first year that Sabai Sabai has participated in the Chili Festival, and beginner's luck certainly seems to have applied to their praiseworthy dish.

"This is a Bangkok chili. It's a chicken chili with Thai spices and we're serving it with tortilla chips and peanuts. A lot of people seem to really like it. It's a little different," explained a waitress from Sabai Sabai. "I've been trying to talk the chefs into doing Thai nachos and maybe putting it on the

menu for an appetizer."

After Sabai Sabai's success at the festival, Middlebury natives may be in luck if a chili-inspired addition to the menu is brought to fruition.

Every chili-eater had the option to vote for their favorite chili and their favorite booth at the festival, and the businesses with the highest number of votes earned a cash prize. In addition, a panel of judges was set to decide the best of the best chili in six categories: pork, game, chicken, beef, veggie and kitchen sink.

Two Brothers Tavern followed Sabai Sabai, earning "Second Best Overall," and receiving a cash prize of \$750 for their beef chili. Park Squeeze, a restaurant in Vergennes, placed "Third Best Overall," winning \$750

for their pork chili. The Park Squeeze Restaurant, participating in the Vermont Chili Festival for the third time, fell just short of its goal this year.

"This is sort of the traditional style that I would do," said the Park Squeeze chef as he scooped the chili. "It's a pork chili and we're getting our pork from Heritage Farms in Otter Creek. I'm hoping for the top prize this year."

For the content-specific categories of pork, game, chicken, beef, veggie, and kitchen sink, the business winners were Park Squeeze, The Lobby, Indulge Salon, Middlebury College Brisket, La

Boca Wood Fired Pizza and Sabai Sabai, respectively. The winners in each of these designated categories were awarded \$100. The two final coveted awards were given to Sabai Sabai as the "People's Choice" and Our House Bistro (in Winooski, Vt.) as the "Best Booth." These two designations earned the businesses prizes of \$500 and \$200, respectively.

All of the chefs worked hard to defy the typical expectations of a chili dish. Jeff Trump, Head Chef at the Lobby in Middlebury, was certainly no exception.

"This one's on the menu. It's a venison maple chipotle chili with hazelnut crème-fraiche and fried shallots. We took first place with it last year," Trump recalled with pride. It seems that this prize-winning chili met its match on Saturday.

Some of Middlebury's own students even put their chili-making skills to the test at the festival. Middlebury Foods, a student-run nonprofit, had a chili stand and their vegetarian chili earned runner-up in its category.

"It was really rewarding; the Atwater dining staff that we cooked alongside was incredibly helpful and kind to the three of us," says Alex Brockelman '18, who cooked for Middlebury Foods on Saturday. "The crowds were sweet

and appreciative for the most part, minus the occasional belligerently drunk student. All in all a great experience."

Competition aside, the town was brought to life with good food, face painting, street performers, live music and positive energy. The Chili Festival has been named one of the "Top 10 Winter Events" for the past five years by the Vermont Chamber of Commerce, and it continues to live up to its praise.

The money raised at the festival supports the Better Middlebury Partnership, which plays a key role in organizing and facilitating community events every year. The fun did not stop once the chili bowls were all

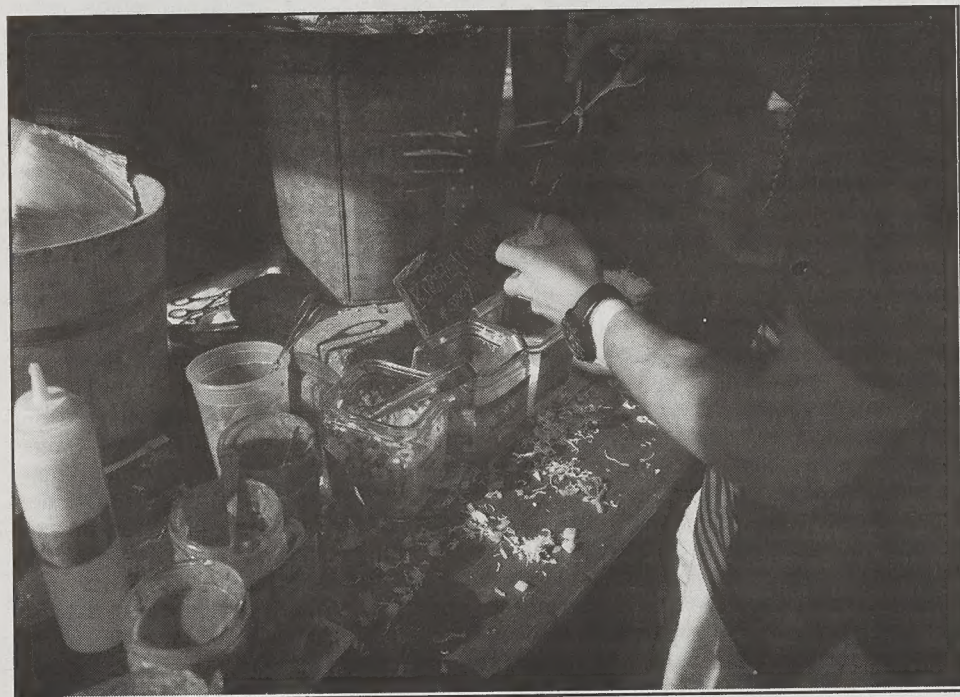
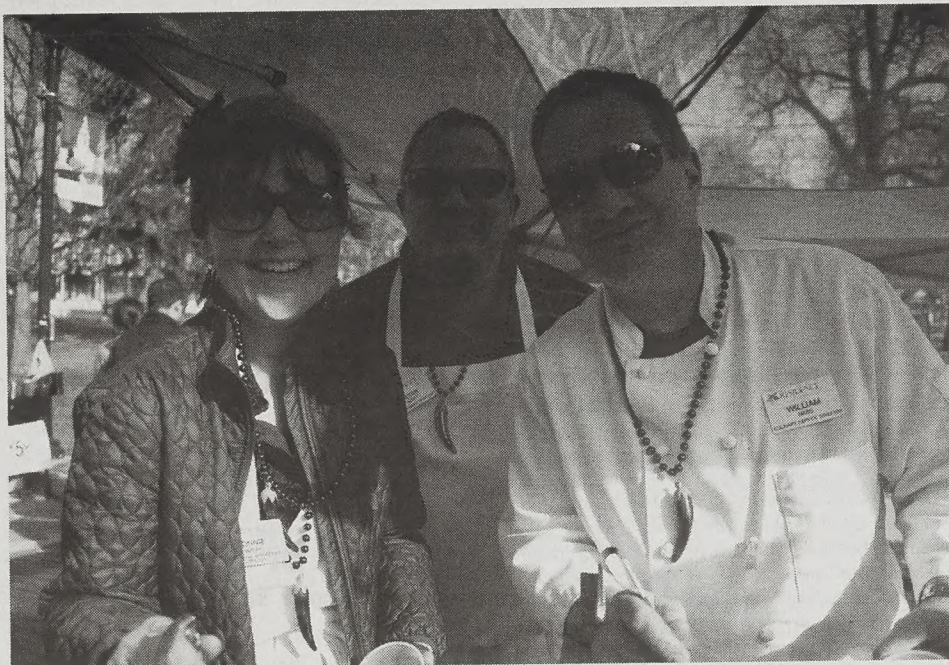
emptied. There were two after parties with live music for the most zealous of chili lovers. The Horse Traders performed at Two Brothers Tavern and BandAnna took the stage at 51 Main.

"It's fun and it's nice to be outside," remarked Trump. "It's nice seeing people from around town. The festival is a good community gathering event."

This sentiment was echoed by students at the College as well: "I think the chili fest is a really nice event because it brings students and Middlebury residents together," Julia Hower '19 said. "It also gives students a chance to get off campus, which can be really refreshing."

"It's fun and it's nice to be outside. It's nice seeing people from around town. The festival is a good community gathering event."

JEFF TRUMP
HEAD CHEF AT THE LOBBY



ANTHEA VITA VIRAGH

Clockwise from left: Visitors enjoy balloon hats in downtown Middlebury; eager chefs serve chili; preparations at Our House chili booth; the Middlebury street is crowded with chili-lovers.

OPINIONS

Disclaimer: Reader op-eds do not reflect the opinion of *The Middlebury Campus* editorial board.

The Middlebury Campus

A Call for More Equitable Funding

Last Sunday, March 13, the Student Government Association (SGA) passed Sophomore Senator Colin Boyle's Club Sports Funding Methodology bill.

EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of the editorial board of *The Middlebury Campus*.

The bill extends club sports funding at its current level and, in anticipation of future budget constraints, delegates a committee to find an alternative method of funding by March of 2017.

The Middlebury Campus

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READER OP-ED

Charles Griggs '16 is from Chicago, IL

opinions of the newspaper. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editors, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's web site at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publication, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Sunday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

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alternative method of funding by March of 2017. *The Campus* calls upon this committee to find a solution that is both equitable among the club sports programs and fair in regards to all student activities.

Currently, club sports are exclusively funded by Student Activities, which derives its funding from the \$410 activities fee paid by each student at the start of every year. Students are required to pay this fee on the premise that it will directly benefit them.

In some ways it does – a large portion of the budget supports organizations like MCAB, the SGA and Commons that service the entire student body. However, an entire 10 percent of the budget supports club sports teams. Only 350 students participate in club athletics, yet every student pays to support these programs. While *The Campus* believes club sports are integral to the College's athletics program, we believe these teams represent a disproportionate amount of the Student Activities budget.

Club sports provide a diverse array of competitive and recreational opportunities where varsity options do not necessarily exist. For many students, playing a club sport is a defining element of their Middlebury experience. Many of the teams are highly competitive or even compete at the varsity level. For example, our men's rugby team is one of the best in the country, and women's water polo is ranked in the top 15th nationally.

We realize that these programs are expensive and require resources that non-athletic organizations do not. While some student organizations can afford a tighter budget, significantly reducing

a club team's funds could jeopardize its existence. Every year, more students are participating and team budgets are increasing. While the average student organization budget is two thousand dollars per year, the median sports team receives eight thousand dollars. Club sports are increasingly expensive to fund; asking all students to support these programs is not a sustainable solution.

I CAN'T RIDE HIM UNTIL HE PAYS AN ACTIVITIES FEE

THAT SEEMS FAIR



Until the College finds a better way to source the funds, we would at least like to see increased equity among the programs. Currently, some teams have access to the Athletic Department's trainers, while others do not. Other teams have fundraising pools to support students struggling to pay out of pocket expenses, while others do not. If the school is choosing to fund club sports teams instead of bringing in more speakers or sending cultural organizations to conferences, all teams must have equal opportunities. For those teams that compete at the varsity level and receive the most resources, the College should consider making their varsity status official. Participating at the varsity level, sailing and crew compete against teams that are funded by their schools' administrations; perhaps Middlebury should follow suit. Teams that demonstrate low participation numbers should not be funded through the student activities fee that places the finan-

cial burden of a select few on the general student population.

If the committee does not come up with its own solution, a plan introduced by Finance Committee Chair Aaron de Toledo will take effect. De Toledo's proposal creates funding caps for club teams by creating three tiers. Tier one sports – men and women's water polo, men and women's crew, sailing and the equestrian team – are ones that the are uniquely expensive or whose coaches are paid for by the College. Tier two sports – quidditch, men's volleyball, cycling, fencing and ultimate frisbee – do not have coaches but compete against other schools. Tier three teams – badminton and figure skating – do not compete. The plan would cap the tier one sports at \$410 per person, tier two at \$307.50 and tier one at \$205 – all in an attempt to find a balance between equality and meeting the teams' needs. De Toledo's plan also proposes a College-sponsored financial aid pool, so that all students who want to participate have the chance to do so. *The Campus* calls on the SGA to reconsider de Toledo's plan or one like it going forward.

We recognize that the administration may not be able to take on club programs as an additional cost. Nonetheless, the College should at least reexamine its budget to see if there any funds that could be reallocated, or consider external funding sources such as team-driven fundraising or alumni donations. Neither the current system nor the plan put forth by de Toledo are ideal, and we expect both the Finance Committee and the SGA to make difficult decisions. At this time, *The Campus* believes that charging the entire student body is not a sustainable model, especially considering the rising costs. We would like to see our Student Activities budget supporting programs that benefit everyone, not just self-selected individuals.

Inclusion Beyond Tradition

"All paradises, all utopias are designed by who is not there, by the people who are not allowed in." – Toni Morrison

Many of you may know, and others of you may wish not to know, that many members of our community are involved in "secret" societies on campus. From the leisure activities that many peers engage in, to the exclu-

READER OP-ED

Charles Griggs '16 is from Chicago, IL

sive social networks that are forged on campus, Middlebury is not an institution that makes it possible for all students to flourish. Secret organizations foster an exclusion that encourages its members, and elite students alike, to disengage with students from disadvantaged backgrounds. Secret societies reinforce many students' sense of not belonging on campus. Thus, secret societies create a stratified social environment that infiltrates and perpetuates sharp class and racial divides that undermine any real strides towards inclusion.

One of the year-end events for many members of our community is known as the Rites of Spring. It works through an invite-only system where the mostly straight, white and overwhelmingly upper class (or soon to be) male members of these societies invite five male friends to the party, each of whom invite a date. Having a close friend, Brian, who went to this event two springs ago, my understanding is that it is strongly encouraged for members and their invites to bring straight female students. Brian brought his girlfriend at the time; and it seemed most of his cohorts did something along the same lines. For the night of the event everyone gets dressed up in their finest garb, pregames at a Ridgeline social house, and

takes a bus to an undisclosed, off-campus location for a night of bacchanalian revelry, at the cost of \$50 for every member. From Brian's recollection, there was an open bar and a band followed by thumping dance music, cigars and a beautiful view of the Adirondack Mountains across Lake Champlain. Though it seemed like everyone else had a good time, it was one of the worst nights of Brian's college career, because he recognized that this event could only thrive in environments structured by inequity. If everyone on campus could make this invite list, the Rites of Spring would lose its utility.

Ultimately what I find problematic is that

this sort of exclusivity comes at a cost. First off there is a class element. A fifty dollar entrance fee to one party is no petty charge, and I've been told that members must also pay dues to be part of these organizations. Rather than speculating about the inner workings of these societies' finances, what stands out to me are their more explicitly exclusive elements: off-campus events and residences; suits and dresses; the financial ability to fund such fetes; luxuries many students cannot even begin to imagine affording.

Secondly, there's an implicit racial dynamic wherein the demographic represented by these societies is even whiter than Middlebury's already overwhelmingly white population. It is redundant and problematic that there are many organizations which hand-pick their members in order to create exclusive, white and wealthy spaces when many students of color and students from low-income families already feel alienated by the student body and College at large.

These organizations foster a campus environment that encourages students to sustain myopic worldviews that deny the complexities of their less-advantaged peers' life experiences.

German Philosopher Max Weber posits that elite social clubs, such as secret societies, are the primary means through which powerful groups distinguish themselves from less powerful groups. "For all practical purposes," he wrote, "stratification by status goes hand in hand with a monopolization of ... opportunities. Material monopolies provide the most effective motives for the exclusiveness of a status group." This highlights that Middlebury

"Secret societies create a stratified social environment that infiltrates and perpetuates sharp class and racial divides that undermine any real strides towards inclusion."

secret societies are not inconsequential; rather, they are emblematic of how power scales up and scales down in society, and reveals Middlebury's position in tolerating and even turning a blind eye to the excess, insularity and intolerance that we see among Wall Street's most powerful and privileged.

In *One-Percent Jokes and Plutocrats in Drag: What I Saw When I Crashed a Wall Street Secret Society*, journalist Kevin Roose provides an exposé of a Wall Street secret society dinner brimming with financial heavyweights. In his account, he describes a brief encounter with a prominent Middlebury alumnus (and donor of the recently constructed field house), who participates in a routine of explicitly sexist and homophobic jokes. Consequently, I worry that students who participate in these secret societies are preparing to become like those in Roose's description, through their ritualized display and reproduction of power and wealth.

Not Victims, Not Risks, Not Impressed

This letter was co-authored by three Middlebury survivors. It is not our intention to speak for all survivors, but rather to speak from our own situated experiences. The identities inhabited within adjudicatory processes are not divorced from the world outside of them — race, class, ability, gender, immigration status, etc. continue to matter. We appreciate the full range of survivors' experiences; the decision to speak out is an entirely personal one.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Anonymous '15
Anonymous '16
Anonymous '16

Dear Editor,

As a collective of Middlebury survivors, we wish to respond to last week's article "Re-examining Our Sexual Assault Investigative Process." We intend to rebut many of the sentiments expressed in this article. Although the author claimed to abhor victim-blaming, we believe that they largely reproduced the violence of victim-blaming in their own writing.

The author's primary concern surrounds the idea that some rapists are actually innocent; we must be critical of survivor's stories. "Skepticism is the defining trait of any good learner," including skepticism of lying survivors. Such concerns surrounding false reporting are grossly overstated. The FBI Bureau of Justice Statistics has collected data on false reporting for decades, consistently finding that the rate of false reporting in instances of rape is somewhere between two and eight percent. This isn't to say that false reporting does not exist, but that it is incredibly rare. The rate of false reporting for rape is significantly less than the rates reported by the FBI for other serious crimes. Would we question a victim of robbery in the same way? The bottom line is that survivors of rape, as a category, continue to be marked as suspect, and misconceptions about false reporting have direct, negative consequences on why many survivors don't report their assaults (see Lisak et al. 2010).

The author also raised concerns over the preponderance of evidence standard, meaning the evidentiary standard used by colleges to adjudicate Title IX cases across the country (for more on the federal government's justifications for the use of this standard, see

the April 4, 2011 Dear Colleague Letter). It is worth noting that even under a preponderance of evidence standard, a finding of "not responsible" does not necessarily mean "innocent." For a number of reasons, cases of interpersonal violence remain notoriously difficult to "prove," and many methods of collecting evidence — such as through rape kits — remain incredibly traumatic and invasive.

The author would lead readers to believe that the preponderance of evidence standard causes potentially innocent respondents, such as John Doe, to be routinely expelled from this institution. Yet in contrast to the sentiments expressed in last week's op-ed, the Doe case signals the degree of agency and recourse that respondents actually have, both through Title IX claims as well as through civil law.

Here are some facts that last week's author failed to disclose to *The Campus*: Clery data indicates that Campus Security Authorities' became aware of 17 possible allegations of forcible sex offense during the 2013 reporting period. Of those 17, College Disciplinary Actions data reveals that only five cases resulted in a sexual misconduct proceeding. Of those five, only three saw an end to their adjudication processes. Of the three that went through a complete proceeding, two cases resulted in a finding of "responsibility." Of the two cases reaching "responsible" decisions, one respondent was suspended and one received "Official College Discipline." To insinuate that the Middlebury system or society at large disfavor "alleged rapists" is nothing short of factually inaccurate.

"You want justice? Don't go to the administration, go to the police." As if this decision was so easy, or was an alleged rapist's decision to make. There are a number of reasons why a survivor may elect to forego a criminal proceeding. Some Middlebury survivors have taken their respondents to court. But at the end of the day, it is up to each survivor to determine how they want to proceed — whether they elect to transfer, not report, report to the campus, confront their rapists themselves

and/or pursue criminal or civil charges. Rape is often experienced as a site of great choicelessness, and who makes the decisions matters. It is not the job of society to tell survivors what justice should look like; it is up to the survivor to reassert their agency to best meet their own justice needs. For those of us who choose to co-exist on campus with our assailants, that decision is extremely difficult. Yet that remains our decision to make.

The one thing that we'll agree with the author on is that Middlebury's SMDVS policy is a highly imperfect and adversarial process; "The College's system for dealing with sexual assault does not give you what you deserve, regardless of whether you are an alleged victim or alleged perpetrator of violence." This reality was echoed by a video made by Middlebury survivors a year ago entitled *Middlebury Unmasked* (go/unmasked). Each choice comes with unfortunate consequences, yet we stand firm in the belief that it remains a

"The irony of last week's op-ed is that it replicated the violence that many survivors experience in the aftermath of their rapes; under a barrage of disbelief, we were once more forced to take time out of our educations to defend ourselves from tired stereotypes."

survivor's task to analyze the array of options before them and decide which option(s) they should pursue.

The author of last week's op-ed emphasized their own feelings of isolation as they underwent their campus judicial process. Does the author seriously think that their sense of isolation would have been lessened during a more visible proceeding in a court of law? For survivors, we'd argue that such experiences of isolation in this community are likely amplified. Isolation is pervasive in sentiments which reduce survivors' lived experiences to nothing more than (a heteronormative) "he said, she said." Our feelings of isolation are augmented by the enduring impacts of our trauma, including PTSD. Our trauma is by no means neatly contained in one night; in terms of attaining "justice," there is no silver bullet.

"If someone approaches you and asks 'did you do it' it feels an awful lot like the 'are you sure?' question we choose not to ask alleged victims." We'd like to debunk the author's notion of a "post-victim-blaming era" right now. It simply does not exist. Survivors are

still asked "are you sure?" in a number of arenas — within sexual misconduct processes, within criminal court and within our friend groups and families. We are still asked "are you sure?" in op-eds which would call into question our capacity for truth or our ability to make decisions for ourselves.

The fact of the matter is that many Middlebury survivors often feel the need to reassert our voices in this community, even in the smallest of ways. That's exactly what we're doing in this letter. We are deeply convinced that the judicial process at Middlebury leaves much to be desired, yet we also believe firmly in our rights to pursue our educations free of sexual violence. Unlike proceedings in criminal court, the heart of Title IX requires educational institutions to bear some responsibility for our experiences within them. The irony of last week's op-ed is that it replicated the violence that many survivors experience in the aftermath of their rapes; under a barrage of disbelief, we were once more forced to take time out of our educations to defend ourselves from tired stereotypes.

We are multidimensional, and we are so much more than the passive "victim" reproduced in last week's op-ed. Many of us have felt isolated and alone in our experiences, but we are complex human beings who are also full of joy, desire, empowerment and opinions. We need not be spoken for, and we reject the author's notion of protection. We are an integral part of this community, and we have a right to be here and to continue to take up space. The resolution mechanisms for these sorts of cases remain imperfect and limited, yet it's our job as claimants to pause and decide which resolution mechanism seems like the lesser of several evils at the time. To insinuate that survivors' don't or can't take into account the treatment of their perpetrators when selecting a resolution mechanism is insulting.

Moving forward, many of us remain committed to reforming the judicial process and continuing to assert our right to a violence-free education. Some of us remain interested in the possibility of using restorative justice to address campus claims through a more harm-centered discourse. Yet one thing must be made clear: if you truly support survivors, you will empower them with the agency to determine their unique path moving forward. You have not been in our shoes and you do not get to pretend to see with our eyes. This never has been — nor will it ever be — your decision to make.

IMAGINING RADICAL ACCOUNTABILITY FOR SEXUAL VIOLENCE

We will not engage in a "debate" about the college judicial process. We are not here to attack college administrators who are working within the confines of Title IX legislation to create as supportive and fair a process as they can. Despite administrators' best intentions, the judicial process can be an extremely difficult process for a person to go through, especially someone who has experienced theft of agency through power-based interpersonal violence such as sexual

READER OP-ED

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Rebecca Coates-Finke '16.5 is from Northampton, Mass.

This article does not reflect the opinions of any organizations with which the authors are affiliated.

assault. In addition, it is a process that seeks to clarify whether or not the incident in question "more likely than not" constituted a college policy violation. It does not determine whether or not someone was hurt, or whether or not the respondent used their privilege to create a power imbalance that harmed someone. Sometimes, those things occur at the same time as a policy violation. Sometimes they do not; sometimes they occur at the same time as a policy violation but there is not a preponderance of evidence to suggest it.

Power-based interpersonal violence like sexual assault occurs when one person exploits the power differential between themselves and others. Due to differing relationships with power related to race, class, gender, etc., this exploitation could

be unconscious, automatic or consciously intentional. In order to understand sexual assault, we have to understand power, and in order to understand power, we have to understand the systems of oppression that inform power differentials in relationships. These systems include but are not limited to: racism, cis/hetero/sexism, ableism, classism and Islamophobia. This past year, the campus community as a whole has made stumbling vocal attempts to address and understand systems of power, and we have failed. We have failed because we refuse to acknowledge our own individual and personal accountability as actors and observers. We have failed because dominant campus culture sees acts of violence such as sexual assault and racial micro/macroaggressions as something that "rapists" and "racists" do, as acts that we could never be responsible for because we — at Middlebury — are "good people." We fail to recognize the ways that "good people" consistently reinforce structures of violence and contribute to violence.

Speaking or acting on sexist, racist, ableist or other such oppressive and problematic assumptions is not always punishable by law or judicial processes. It is, however, always harmful. Does this mean we always need to resort to carceral or punitive measures to hold our community accountable? What if, instead of only framing sexual violence in terms of "crime" or "policy violation," we recognize it as a failure of our community, our educations and our interpersonal communication? So few of us are given the tools we need to engage in not only safe relationships but also honest and fulfilling ones. These missing tools include engaging with and questioning what constitutes power, privilege and violence, and the way that these forces impact our relation-

ships. Maybe, recognizing that our communities have failed us will help us understand why taking responsibility for our actions when someone is hurt is not necessarily a concession of guilt, but rather an acknowledgement of humanity.

Supporting survivors and being accountable for the well-being of our community at large means expanding and reframing conversations about power-based violence to think outside of judicial processes and to focus on community responsibilities to one another instead. To begin, we must acknowledge the way current campus conversations about diversity and inclusion are connected to the work of combatting sexual violence and supporting survivors. We will not and cannot powerfully combat sexual violence — which lives at the intersection of various systems of power and oppression — if we are unable to have meaningful, empathic and/or productive conversations about racism (and ableism, transphobia, sexism, Islamophobia, etc), both interpersonal and institutional, as they operate at Middlebury. Trauma as a result of multi-generational oppression and macro/micro-aggressions is as real as the trauma of sexual violence, and — for many survivors — they are inextricably linked to one another.

We want to expand the potentialities for how we as a community understand sexual violence at Middlebury. First, we must take the conversations about oppression and violence outside of *The Campus*. It is a limited form of engagement for what should be serious and mindful conversations. Pieces like "Reexamining Our Sexual Assault Investigative Process" and other recent op-eds rooted in privilege are triggering, derailing and exhausting for those who consistently have to deal with trauma or defending and debating their worth and pres-

ence at Middlebury. These op-eds attempt to disengage from and avoid the conversations about power, privilege and oppression that our community desperately needs.

Next, we must think about violence in the context of its location and the way that harm manifests in power-based violence, rather than only defining actions by legality/illegality. Our community would then focus more on how people are affected by violence and less on whether a policy was violated or not. This concept is as relevant to conversations about sexual violence as it is to those about political correctness and freedom of speech. Some tactics for harm-based interventions could borrow from restorative justice practices — informally or formally — in transformative or prevention work. The College's PRISM project (of which Middlebury is a member of the advisory group) is beginning to research the possibilities for implementation on college campuses. Initiatives like Circles of Support and Accountability (support systems utilized by perpetrators returning to their communities after incarceration consisting of volunteers, trained staff and experts) are already used in Vermont's criminal justice system, and — pending further research and activism — could be used for perpetrators found responsible returning to campus after suspension, or — informally — in social or organizational circles on campus. Other tactics could include an everyday ethic of taking responsibility for ourselves, our community and our mistakes, and of making a commitment to social justice education: individually, in friend groups and through initiatives like JusTalks and Green Dot.

We must lean into discomfort and reimagine a community that practices an ethic of radical accountability.

It's Not Fair

Life's not fair. Ever since we were little children, we've heard that phrase so many times, and while we never wanted to believe it, it's true. Life isn't fair. And it all starts at birth: we arrive into this world carrying different kinds of baggage already

READER OP-ED

Katrina Drury '19 is from Cincinnati, NY

packed with genes that predetermine certain aspects of our identity. Then more gets stuffed in on top of those genes – things like our socioeconomic status, dialect, talents, sexual orientation or faith – and at a certain point, it may seem like some people are blessed with a lighter load while others struggle with baggage that holds them back in their journey through life.

Those born with baggage viewed as disadvantageous often choose to wrap themselves in the pitiful garments of victimhood, deeming the baggage they received at birth the reason why they cannot meet certain standards or why people treat them a certain way. When I was younger, I remember taking a 4-H trip to Cornell University with one of my friends. We both

came from the poor, rural town of Cincinnati, NY, and I distinctly remember my friend saying, "I don't think anyone from Cincinnati could ever end up in a college like Cornell." I hear a similar mentality even today, with people complaining about how unfair it is that others look down on them because of their gender or race. Now, I'm not denying the existence of discrimination. It definitely exists, and yeah, it is unfair. I just think that instead of letting other people determine what we can and can't do, we should know ourselves and not let any discrimination define our value as human beings.

After all, we are who we are, and there are some things about our identities that we just cannot change. We can't change our ethnicity. We can't change the family situation into which we were born. We can't change our height or our skin color or our genes. Those are the cards we were dealt, and there's nothing we can do about that. Of course there will be people out there who deny us opportunities because of those things, and of course there will be certain times when our situation puts us at a slight disadvantage in life. But should that stop us from pursuing our dreams? Personally, I want to do what people say I can't do. As an introverted girl raised by a

single mom from a poor family in a small town where many treated us as outsiders because of our Asian heritage, no one expected me to graduate with honors from a reputable private school or get accepted into a prestigious college like Middlebury. There were many things that people thought I couldn't do and many times I was denied opportunities because of who I am. But instead of discouraging me, that just fueled my desire to prove them all wrong.

That's why I can't understand why so many people insist on being defined and limited by the baggage they carry through life. Instead of focusing on the negative and complaining about the unjust system or bigoted people in society, I think we should commit ourselves to striving for excellence, no matter what anyone tries to tell us. We know our own selves better than anyone else, so we should be able to determine when the criticisms actually hold merit or when they are just plain untrue. Besides, we have standards in place not to prevent people from success, but to encourage them to work harder to meet and surpass those standards. When you push yourself to work hard and achieve something others thought you couldn't achieve, and actually succeed at doing so, the satisfaction and pride that you get are so immensely pleas-

ant and rewarding. Even if you don't succeed, at least you tried and didn't give up just because other people didn't believe in you. And we are extremely fortunate to live in a country that gives us that opportunity. That's why so many people flock to America – in America, everyone is guaranteed an equal opportunity to achieve whatever they want regardless of their race, religion, gender or anything else. The only things not guaranteed are results. But the inequality of results is not simply caused by some people having heavier baggage than others; it's caused by the inequality of effort put in to compensate for that baggage. No matter how much of an advantage you have, if you don't put in the effort to get something, why would you complain when you don't get it?

In the end, it's not about what others say or do to hold us back; it's about what we actually do despite those obstacles. Sure, we may not all have the same backgrounds, the same things or the same skills, but that's not what's unfair. We all have the same opportunity to make the best of what we're given, so we shouldn't let anything prevent us from achieving success. We shouldn't make excuses for ourselves or elicit pity so that we can reap the benefits without putting in the work. Because that's unfair.

WHITE PRIVILEGE IN THE FACE OF THE LAW

This article is not meant to be comprehensive as it neither discusses the depth and complexities of policing, prosecution and incarceration nor the intersections of identities. We encourage you to explore how trans and gender non-conforming people, queer people, people with disabilities and impoverished people might acutely bear the negative impacts of mass criminalization.

FACING WHITENESS

Aliza Cohen '17 is from Chattanooga, TN

Juliette Gobin '16 is from Harrison, NY

Emma Ronai-Durning '18 is from Salem, OR

Anna Iglitzin '17.5 is from Seattle, WA

Annie Taylor '16 is from San Carlos, CA

Nowhere is it more apparent that we do not live in a post-racial society than in the United States criminal justice system. At an incarceration rate of over 700 per 100,000 people, the United States holds five percent of the world's population, yet a staggering 25 percent of the world's incarcerated population (and one third of the world's incarcerated women). This is not an easy statistic to grasp, considering that the incarceration rates of China and Russia combined are still less than that of the United States. In absolute numbers of people under correctional control, the United States again takes the gold with over 2.3 million people incarcerated and nearly five million more on probation.

Racial discrimination marks every stage of the criminal justice process, from arrest to sentencing to incarceration. While the Fourth Amendment in theory "guarantees [the] right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects" and guards "against unreasonable searches and seizures," its protections have been largely undermined in recent decades. Beginning with the Supreme Court's 1968 decision in *Terry v. Ohio*, legal restraints on police searches began to soften. As Michelle Alexander articulates in *The New Jim Crow*, so long as a police officer has "reasonable articulable suspicion" that a person may be involved in unlawful activity, "it is constitutionally permissible to stop, question, and frisk [them]—even in the absence of probable cause." Take New York City's infamous stop-and-frisk practices, for example. In 2012, 55 percent of the 500,000 people stopped and frisked were Black, despite the fact that the city's Black population was only 25 percent of the whole population. Although the NYPD reports that rates of stop-and-frisk have dropped within the past three years, over 50 percent of stops target Black people, with a rate of innocence above

80 percent (NYCLU). In Arizona, indigenous peoples were 3.25 times more likely to be stopped and searched, despite no correlation with illegal conduct. According to a database of civil rights complaints brought against law enforcement officers, U.S. attorneys have declined to prosecute cases 96 percent of the time (Justice Department, National Caseload Data; Pittsburgh Tribune Review).

The racial component of police violence can be difficult to track given that many law enforcement agencies do not report arrest-related homicides by race. In 2011, the CDC reported that Black people were more than twice as likely as white people to be killed by law enforcement. Recent estimates from the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) indicate that this racial disparity could be even greater. Notwithstanding the potential margin for error in these statistics, the numbers fail to expose the gruesome and violent actions that U.S. law enforcement inflicts on Black and Brown people. As just one example of such action, Tamir Rice, a 12-year-old holding an airsoft gun in a Cleveland park, was shot and killed by two police officers before their patrol car had even come to a stop. Rice received no first aid from the offending officers, and died the following day of gunshot wounds. The officer was not indicted. It is difficult to argue that the same fate would have befallen a white child in Rice's shoes; in a recording released after the homicide, the 911 dispatcher asks twice whether the suspect was Black or white before sending officers. Rice's 14-year-old sister arrived at the scene and was immobilized by the police officers, handcuffed and put in the police car, unable to bring final moments of comfort to her little brother.

Incidents of police brutality that do not result in homicide are even more difficult to track. Emergency room records reveal that from 2001 to 2012, Black people suffered five times as many nonfatal injuries from law enforcement than white people. Furthermore, a study conducted by the BJS in 2008 found that "the percentage of Black people who reported experiencing the use or threat of force during their most recent contact with police was nearly three times that of white people." These are the very people that U.S. police forces pledge "to protect and serve." Marissa Alexander from Jacksonville, Florida, a survivor of domestic abuse, fired a warning shot through a wall, injuring or killing no one, after her husband threatened to kill her. She feared for her life since her husband had physically abused her. She was sentenced to 20 years in jail. Activism surrounding the case helped get

her released after three years of serving her sentence. Florida's "stand your ground" law didn't seem to apply to her in the way that it applied to George Zimmerman.

Incarceration and police practices in the U.S. reflect highly racialized criminalization patterns. The U.S. imprisons a larger percentage of its Black American population than South Africa did at the height of apartheid. Latino, Indigenous and Black men are incarcerated at three, four and five times the rate of white men, respectively. This disparity extends to women as well, with Black and Indigenous women incarcerated at a rate six times that of white women and Latina women incarcerated at over two times the rate of white women (Bureau of Justice Statistics).

Like the racial overtones to police violence, racial disparities also plague sentencing practices. Though the War on Drugs may not be the primary driver of the mass incarceration boom, it is perhaps the most striking example of disproportionate treatment of Black people under the criminal justice system. Despite evidence that the rates of drug use and sale do not vary significantly among Black and white people, Black

people are disproportionately arrested, charged, convicted and imprisoned for drug crimes. Three-strike policies, mandatory minimums and overall harsher drug sentencing laws mean that drug arrests that previously did not result in extensive time in prison are now four times more likely to result in prison sentences.

According to the International Centre for Prison Studies, 21.2 percent of prisoners in the U.S. (roughly 465,000 people) are unsentenced at any given time, i.e. held in jail or prison on bail, usually awaiting trial or sentencing. If someone is unable to pay for bail, even though in the eye of the law they are "innocent until proven guilty," they are still imprisoned, unable to go to work or take care of family members. To cite one case, 16-year-old Kalief Browder, arrested on robbery charges, spent three years in jail without a trial. Two of those years were spent in solitary confinement. Browder committed suicide two years after being released.

Incarceration's detrimental effects are not isolated to the sentenced individual; consequences ripple within their family and community. Not only do families of incarcerated people generally lose an income, they then have to pay, on average, about \$13,000 in fines and court fees for their family member, as shown in the report "Who Pays: The True Cost of Incarceration on Families." Costs continue throughout the sentence as families pay exorbitant phone rates and travel fees for visitation. These

costs impose a tremendous burden.

Once marked by the criminal justice system, a person is also subject to an onslaught of legal discrimination. A person who has been arrested or incarcerated can be barred from jobs and schooling because of requirements to "check the box" on applications. They can also be excluded from SNAP (the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, commonly known as food stamps), denied public housing benefits and stripped of their voting rights. Moreover, conditions of probation and parole can dictate where a person may live or be at any given time, with whom they can associate and when they must be in certain places. All of this is to say that even despite the most earnest attempts to reintegrate into communities, legal and structural impediments make this extremely difficult, if not impossible.

Hundreds of books on mass criminalization and its racialized components have been published and we urge everyone to further their research on this topic. The implications of what we have highlighted, however, are this: while the majority of Middlebury students regularly break the law without fear of consequences, when Black, Latino and Indigenous people behave identically, their hyper-policed bodies and minds are more likely to be criminalized, disrupting the lives of individuals and communities they interact with. Mass incarceration is part of a chain of institutions designed to strip the constitutional rights of people of color. In other words, law enforcement is not one bad apple within an otherwise functioning system; the entire tree is rotten from its core. These incarceration statistics are the synthesis of quota- and profit-driven policing, over-policing in communities of color and systematic racial discrimination within a judicial system designed in many ways to disenfranchise Black, Latino and Native people. As white people, it is essential to keep asking, whom does law enforcement protect? And how do we maintain these systems of policing and pre-emptive criminalization on the basis of race?

What we are reading:

"Thanks to Republicans, Nearly a Quarter of Florida's Black Citizens Can't Vote," (*The Intercept*).

"Kalief Browder, Held at Rikers Island for 3 Years Without Trial, Commits Suicide," (*The New York Times*).

"Native Americans are the Unseen Victims of a Broken US Justice System," (*Quartz*).

"Obama Bans the Box," (MSNBC).

Senghor, Shaka. (*Writing My Wrongs: Life, Death, and Redemption in an American Prison*).

Where'd the Authenticity Go?

Have you ever asked a friend to take down a picture on Facebook because you think it's unflattering or embarrassing? Have you ever spent a lot of time crafting the perfect caption? Have you ever friended someone but then felt too awkward to say hi when you saw them in person?

Everyone has a different social media

THE ROOT

Maddie Hoar '17.5 is from Wellesley, Mass.

presence, but almost no one is completely genuine in creating a profile. Facebook has become a form of personal advertisement to boost social capital. It is not about just creating connections with people: it's about

crafting an image. This might be stating the obvious, but it's also stating a fact that is not openly acknowledged. In my opinion, this lack of authenticity is the core problem with our social media usage (and quite frankly with our real life relationships as well). People are afraid to be genuine on Facebook because it is so public. More often than not, people's networks include "friends" that they barely even know. On top of that, we all have been warned of the ominous "colleges and companies look at your Facebook profile when they are deciding about whether or not to accept you." This is what results in people deleting their Facebook accounts, or that feeling of anxiety you get after posting pictures or comparing yourself to other people you find yourself stalking.

The issue with Facebook is that there is no universally accepted purpose for it. LinkedIn

is used to create professional connections with people. Email is used to keep in direct contact with individuals. With Facebook, the jury is still out. It may have started as a platform to connect with others, but it has strayed from that original purpose.

Columbia University did a study that affirmed what you may have already suspected: the way you use Facebook completely determines how it affects your mood. If you are actively engaged and post frequently, you are more likely to get self-confidence and positivity from the responses and affirmation you receive. If you passively scroll through your newsfeed and lament that you are not doing as many cool things as that one acquaintance traveling abroad, you are going to be unhappier through Facebook usage. But here's where it gets interesting: a study done by the University of California San Di-

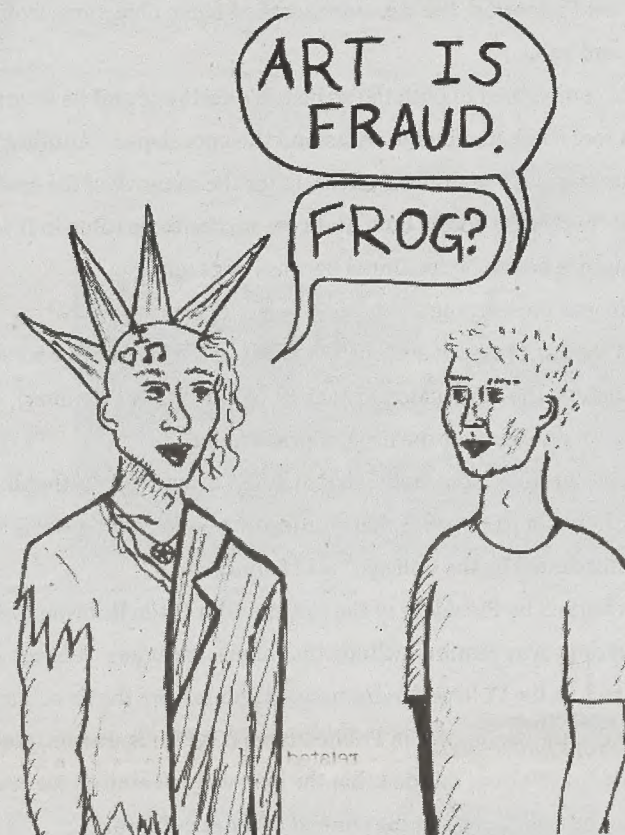
ego showed that emotions can spread like wildfire through your social media network. The mood of your posts on Facebook has a ripple effect on the mood of all active people in your network. Your Facebook presence is influencing the happiness (or unhappiness) of other people you know. Clearly, social media can affect your happiness, and so we need to be more intentional about how we use it.

I see the lack of authenticity on Facebook as a problem that is hindering our ability to have meaningful relationships, and in the long run hindering our well-being. I have a challenge for you (and for myself): be more genuine on Facebook, and take the activity of others with a grain of salt. Don't spend time crafting an image for yourself. Don't worry about whether or not to post something. Find a way to be authentic in whatever way works best for you.

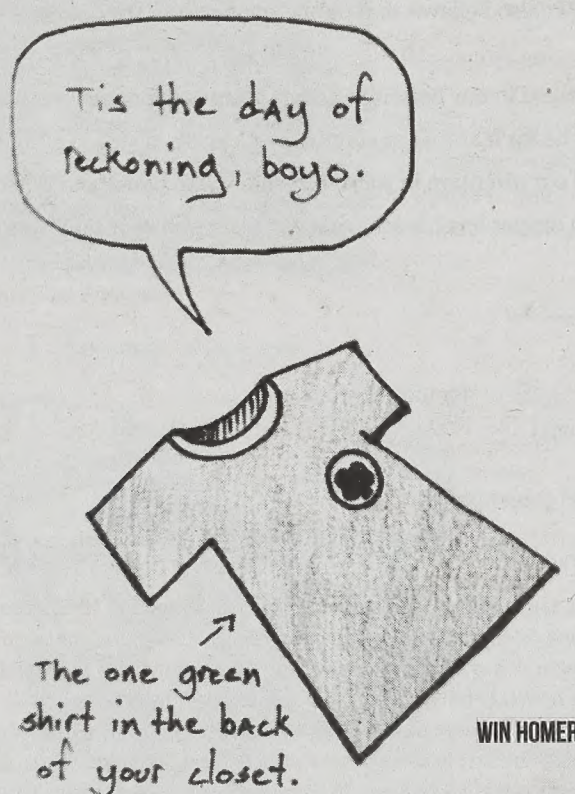
College Cats Abroad by Emily Cox go/comicsthemily



EMILY COX



BOONE MCCOY-CRISP



WIN HOMER

Iambic PUNtometer



KAITLYND COLLINS



VASU TANEJA

Rising from the Ashes: How the College's Public Art Program Emerged from a Violent Act

On the eve of Commencement 1985, a student crept into the meadow where McCordell Bicentennial Hall stands today, took a blowtorch to a tall, boxy sculpture and burned it.

The sculpture, a four-sided closet-sized metal building with panels of six playing cards on one side and an entrance door painted with flags of six countries on the other, was never meant to be so provocative. Vito Acconci, who was the Christian A. Johnson Distinguished Visiting Professor of Studio Art at the time, built the structure — titled Way Station I (Study Chamber) — with the help of students in his Winter Term class in 1983. It was intended to “offer a quiet space for refuge and contemplation,” according to the Committee for Art in Public Places.

Despite this placid intention, the structure sparked fierce objections from the student body in 1983 and 1984.

Angry students complained of both the structure's aesthetic and its location. One student called it “a tool shed intended to withstand the apocalypse.” Another told The Campus that he was starting a petition to advocate for the removal of the sculpture because he found it “to be very poorly built and I see no aesthetic value in it whatsoever.” Four times the sculpture had to be repainted because of graffiti.

And then, there was the burning.

For Director of the Art Museum and current Chair of the Committee for Art in Public Places Richard Saunders, the destruction of Way Station I (Study Chamber), one of the College's only pieces of public art at the time, was alarming.

“I thought it was shocking, personally, that at a liberal arts college that has one its underpinnings as a belief in free speech that a group of people could destroy something that had been commissioned by the College,” said Saunders.

Saunders was charged by President of the College Olin Clyde Robison to clean up the controversy surrounding Way Station I (Study Chamber). Saunders' subsequent work to bring the artist back to the College for discussions and restore the structure produced the idea behind the Committee for Art in Public Places (CAPP): Saunders, along with Middlebury sculptor Eric Nelson, decided that the best way to reintroduce Way Station I (Study Chamber) to the College was in the context of more public art.

In 1994, after many years of informal efforts by Saunders and others to bring more public art to the College, the Committee for Art in Public Places was formally established and the College adopted a “One Percent for Art” policy. This policy set aside one percent of the cost of any renovation or new construction project at the College with a budget of one million dollars or more for the purchasing and maintenance of public art installations.

As a result, Middlebury College is one of the few small colleges in the U.S. with such

an extensive campus-wide sculpture collection and a formal commitment to the promotion of public art.

Today, CAPP has brought over twenty new pieces of public art to the College. The committee also refurbished Way Station I (Study Chamber) in 2013, relocating it to a more secluded spot east of the Mahaney Center for the Arts.

CAPP is composed of a board of faculty, students, administrators and trustees of the College who evaluate proposed donated art works and purchases and prioritize prospective sites for future projects. Over time, CAPP hopes to make its collection more inclusive and diverse in terms of artists' gender, ethnicity and nationality.

Just this fall, CAPP unveiled its newest addition to the collection, Chaos Xaxis, which was donated to the College by an anonymous donor. Chaos Xaxis stands 14 feet tall and is located between the Axinn Center for Starr Library and Route 7.

Despite these goals and developments, however, CAPP finds itself in a curious state of limbo. In 2009, the “One Percent for Art” policy was suspended by former president Ron Liebowitz due to financial struggles following the 2008 market recession. The Board of Trustees ordered CAPP to stop purchasing new works and to use their endowment only for the maintenance of current art or the installation of donated art.

Saunders is hopeful that with a new president may come the return of the “One Percent for Art” policy.

President Laurie L. Patton commended the unveiling of the Chaos Xaxis sculpture in September 2015.

“We are thrilled to have this prominent sculpture find a permanent home on the Middlebury campus,” she said. As of now, Patton has made no formal statements about her thoughts on reinstating the “One Percent for Art” policy.

Saunders hopes the College's commitment to public art continues because public art promotes thoughtful conversation on a college campus.

“What we need to do is to have this campus art collection be an opportunity for a dialogue and an exchange of ideas and just becoming aware,” said Saunders. “We need to be at least working in the direction of visual literacy.”

Shannon Hutteman '16, an art history and economics double major who is one of the student members of CAPP, also believes that public art is part of the College's educational experience.

“The public art displayed in our buildings brings a depth to our everyday learning environment, whether it be for learning or simply the pleasure of viewing,” said Hutteman. “Art can command our attention in ways that allow us to pause and reflect on what we see, and perhaps on a deeper level, learn what our perceptions of said works tell us about ourselves.”

L'Art d'Écrire (The Art of Writing)



Photo by Michael Borenstein

herman de vries (Dutch, b. 1931)

2013

Dried grass, collected at random and mounted in frames

32 pieces, each 9 7/8 x 13 3/4 inches.

Located in the lobby of Hillcrest

Trained as a botanist, herman de vries became active as an artist during the 1960s. By the early 1970s he increasingly sought aesthetic inspiration in nature, and the resulting body of work is situated poetically on the intersection of art and science. For Wintergräser, a work consisting of what de vries calls “vegetation-cuts,” the artist ventured into the fields near his home in Eshenau, Bavaria, during early spring, 2013. There he collected sheaves of vegetation that had been pressed down by the winter snow. Without any particular order or orientation he then cut, dried, framed, and arranged the various grasses in a grid. The species contained in the frames are purple moor-grass, bushgrass, reed canary grass, and at least one other unidentified species.

Written by Emilie Munson

Design by Emma Hatheway

Matt Mullican (American, b. 1951)

2004–2005

Oil stick and acrylic paint on 64 canvas panels

25 x 74 feet

Located in Davis Family Library

The title of the mural, as well as some of its imagery, comes from the influential 18th century Encyclopédie of Denis Diderot, including references to language, geography, history, and the natural world. Among the recognizable images in this encyclopedic survey of world knowledge are alphabets of myriad languages, charts of the heavenly bodies, and some references to Middlebury itself. The mural is an ode to the concept of a library as a locus of knowledge, research, and information. Mullican used a transferring technique he prefers: he first makes a vinyl template for each image, which is articulated as a positive relief. The yellow canvas is then laid over the template and rubbed by hand, with black oilstick. The imagery of the template is thus transferred, via the rubbing, onto the canvas. The artist's process and its final character are akin to the popular activity of making chalk rubbings from old gravestones.

Wintergräser

Photo by Michael Borenstein



Art Policy Act of Vandalism

Two-Way Mirror Curved Hedge Zig-Zag Labyrinth



Photo by Michael Borenstein

Dan Graham (American, b. 1942)

1996

Glass, steel, *Arborvitae nigra*

7½ feet high, radius of 15 feet

Located in the Mahaney Center for the Arts plaza

Graham's pavilions invite active participation and challenge notions of public space. They do not have any apparent practical function and purposely obscure relationships between object and viewer. Industrial and commercial materials are purposely juxtaposed with living hedges. This pavilion was designed specifically for its site on the plaza of the Middlebury College Center for the Arts. Similar pavilions adorn the rooftops of the Dia Center in New York and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art.

Vito Acconci (American, b. 1940)

1983 (rebuilt 2013)

Concrete, painted steel, aluminum, and glass

81 × 72 × 64 inches

Located at the pond behind the Mahaney Center for the Arts

The structure included painted images of flags of various national entities—the United States, the Soviet Union, China, Cuba, and the Palestine Liberation Organization—as well as mirrored glass and painted two-sided sliding metal panels. On the inside of the structure the panels spelled “GOD,” “MAN,” and “DOG”; on the exterior they depicted playing cards. Debates and arguments about the sculpture's artistic merits occurred regularly in the Middlebury Campus from the moment it was constructed. It was vandalized and burned, and eventually brought out of storage to be refurbished.

Way Station I (Study Chamber)

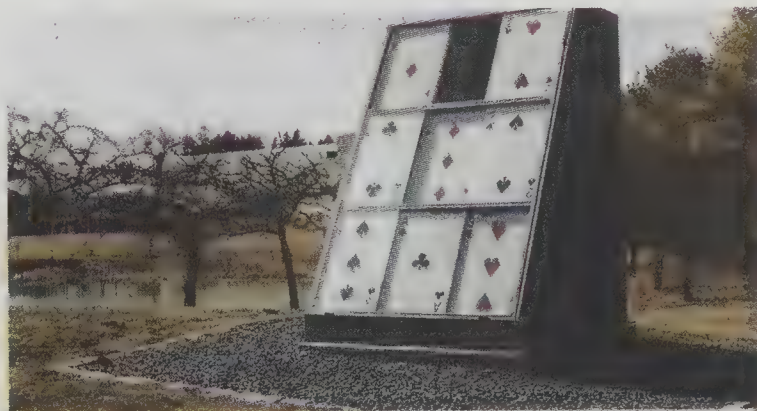


Photo by Michael Borenstein

Youbie Obie

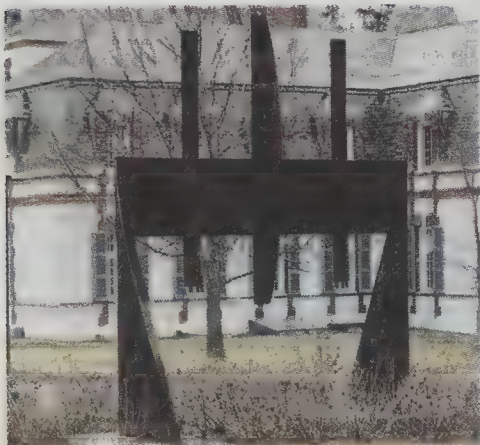


Photo by Michael Borenstein

J. Pinduck Miller '60 (American, b. 1935)

1972–75, 1985

Corten steel

15½ × 15½ × 6 feet

Located between Coffin Hall and Le Château

This reminiscence of an early experience of childhood wonder lies at the heart of J. Pinduck Miller's sculptural enterprise. Combining aesthetic perception and an appreciation for the sheer volume of information conveyed by a model of the solar system, the artist became a proponent of articulate formal organization at an early age. Seen face-on, in its broadest dimension, the sculpture resembles a gate. Foreshortened when viewed from its narrowest sides, it collapses into arcs and counter-arcs. Placed here, it serves as a dynamic entrance to the northern section of the campus.

Global Impact



Photo by Rachel Frank

Chaos Xaxis



Photo by Michael Borenstein

Jedd Novatt (American, b. 1958)

2012

Bronze

14 × 13 × 13 feet

Located between Axinn Center at Starr Library and Route 7

Like other works in Novatt's Chaos series, Chaos Xaxis consists of loosely stacked cube-like forms. The top-heavy composition appears to teeter on the verge of collapse, seemingly defying gravity while also giving the work an implied dynamism. The mottled, uneven surface of the bronze emphasizes the materiality of the work itself. As a set of three-dimensional frames the sculpture assumes a calligraphic quality that recalls the artist's two-dimensional work, providing his oeuvre as a whole with great conceptual as well as formal cohesion.

Henry Simonds (American, b. 1975)

2011–2013

Twenty-one cibachrome prints on metallic paper
7 × 3 feet

Mahaney Center for the Arts

Simonds is an alumnus and just became a trustee. The work is currently on display at the Mahaney Center for the Arts but will be dispersed all over the world, to places where Middlebury has a presence: Monterey, DC, Ripton, Paris, Oxford, Florence, Madrid, Latin America, China, Japan, India, Cameroon, the Davis Library, BiHall, Old Chapel and the Mahaney Center. It will, however, remain one work, hence the title.

Sabra Field (American, b. 1935)

2010

Synthetic oil, based on 2009 suite of sixteen linocuts
35 × 35 feet

Located on the east wall of Wright Memorial Theatre

Field is a well-known printmaker and Middlebury College alumna. The catalyst for the project was Kate Lupo '10, who suggested painting the blank façade of building. The mural is a suite of sixteen prints that depict an array of cellular, plant, animal and architectural patterns in a grid and grouped in themed quartets that depict spiraling, tiling, branching, and scaling. The images themselves represent subjects that range from the Duomo in Florence and the Pantheon in Rome to a spiral nebula and an electric spark.

Mural of Cosmic Geometry



Photo by Michael Borenstein



Why Can't We Be Friends?

By Alex Forde
Contributing Writer

In Kanye West's song "Real Friends," he raps, "We smile at each other, but how many honest?"

Last Saturday night, I found myself preoccupied with that same question. I stood in a friend's room on the fourth floor of Stewart and carefully folded a vomit-soaked comforter around itself to keep the mess from getting on my clothes while I walked down to the laundry room. "Stew is a dry dorm" — yeah right.

Later in the night, I was talking to my friend Roger. We hadn't seen much of each other lately, and the rare opportunity for a heart-to-heart was too good to pass up, even with the specter of daylight saving time staring us down.

It would implicate and possibly embarrass Roger to describe our conversation in full, but it involved his de facto exclusion from the larger group that most of his friends are a part of. We realized that each of his friends has their own image of how he fits into their social jigsaw puzzle — as the too-good-for-us social climber or the introverted eccentric — and that these images keep them from truly letting him in.

My perception that he's just one of the guys was wrong, too. The gloomy look that filled his eyes as he outlined his experience on the outskirts of the group made that clear enough.

So why does he pretend to be real friends with those who do nothing but pretend back?

Before I answer that, I have another question: Why do we pretend Stew is a dry dorm? If I told someone, "Don't allow peanuts near me; I'm deathly allergic," and they did as good of a job of not allowing peanuts near me as Middlebury does at not allowing alcohol in dry dorms, I would be dead two times over. But this lie, as transparent as it is, has benefits — for appearances, to keep the amount of rule-breaking manageable. . . . It is an innocent lie.

In much the same way, Roger lies for others' benefit.

"How are you?" someone asks him.

I could give you an answer that would actually give you some understanding of how I am, but I won't, he thinks. "I'm good," he says, "How's [single thing we have in common]?" This approach allows his audience to add one more positive social interaction, however insipid it may be, to their list, and feel comfortable that they may be each other's 16th best friend. On the other side of the room, legitimate best friends are usually spilling their vulnerabilities and overflowing with stories. The dishonesty inherent in small talk becomes clear when contrasted with the interactions of real friends.

But is this dishonesty a bad thing? It's Monday, and I'm talking to Roger. He tells me he's been thinking, and now realizes he's content not fully integrating into the group. He could make an effort to get closer to the others, but he likes his number of friends.

He's a "quality over quantity" kind of guy, he says. "Being yourself is not something to be bummed about." His eyes are bright and confident.

Students Meet, Talk Mindfulness with Brown's Dr. Catherine Kerr

By Angie Walker
Contributing Writer

On Thursday, March 10, Dr. Catherine Kerr of Brown University presented "Mindfulness: Body, Breath and the Self," which included a brief history of secular mindfulness in the United States and its growing acceptance in academic culture.

Jon Kabat-Zinn, the founder of secular mindfulness, defines it as "paying attention in the present moment, on purpose and non-judgmentally." Kerr presented Kabat-Zinn's definition but said that that it "doesn't tell me about the experience of mindfulness and what it actually is." She said that the experience of mindfulness "helps practitioners discover a more spacious and dynamic sense of self."

During the lecture, Kerr invited attendees to close their eyes and "feel the space" they occupied. She then asked students to lean toward each other and to

notice when they felt themselves entering their space. "Right now, our brain knows that we're all in here together," Kerr said at the end of the exercise.

Reflecting on the talk, Eli Susman '18.5 said he has his own mindfulness practice. "For me, mindfulness is all about relationships," he said. "That includes developing a relationship with the world around me. Most importantly, it involves relationships with other people. Being present for someone else is, I think, the greatest gift that I can give someone. I think we could benefit from slowing down and doing less, but what's more important is finding a way to use these lessons in mindfulness to bring everyone together."

Mindfulness practice such as that discussed in the lecture has been gaining ground at the College, particularly as a response to stress-levels and mental health on campus. In December, a group of administrators presented solutions to

"Being present for someone else is, I think, the greatest gift that I can give someone. I think we could benefit from slowing down and doing less, but what's more important is finding a way to use these lessons in mindfulness to bring everyone together."

ELI SUSMAN '18.5

student stress in a document they termed "the Grid," identifying mindfulness as one area of focus.

In the fall term, students, faculty and staff started the Mindfulness at Middlebury Initiative to explore how the College can integrate mindfulness into campus life. The group has sponsored classes for faculty in qigong, a branch of martial arts focused on body posture and movement. It hosted a mindfulness workshop during the Class of 2019 orientation and helped co-host Dr. Kerr's lectures.

In addition to her role as speaker, Kerr is implementing a mindfulness program specifically tailored to the stresses of being a medical student at Brown University's Warren Alpert Medical School. Medical students have unique stresses such as working with cadavers, long hours, dealing with illness and witnessing death.

Kerr estimates that only about 15 percent of the students will be highly interested in meditation after the mandatory introduction to mindfulness course has ended, but she highlights that students can still benefit from the practice even if they stop meditating.



MICHAEL O'HARA

Catherine Kerr of Brown University talked mindfulness and mental health in Dana Auditorium.

Crossword of the Week: Midd Madness

By Sam Tauke
Contributing Writer

Across:

- 1 "Nice!"
- 6 Longest serving pres.
- 9 Once more
- 14 Not quiet
- 15 Go/____ (Where one can find the answers to this week's puzzle)
- 16 "Brick" singer Ben _____
- 17 Place for a dinner date on Friday night
- 18 Yiddish exclamations
- 19 Major key to Midd Basketball's success
- 20 Short foot race in the future?
- 22 Just ____ it!
- 23 With 25-across, milestone event for seniors
- 25 See 23 across
- 29 Locally supported farming org.
- 32 Phone _____ (Work half-heartedly)
- 33 Place to find love on a Saturday night
- 35 Cause for bagged flags
- 36 Number of weeks in an academic trimester
- 37 "Can I buy a ____?"
- 38 Sports team date-night event
- 39 _____ tea
- 41 Lobbyist group for space traveling grandfathers?
- 42 Reason to give up beer, for awhile at least
- 44 Sound of disgust
- 45 Therefore, to Nero
- 46 Homeric units of money
- 51 Backwards way to address a man you respect
- 53 Event with less certain out-

comes than go/menu

- 57 Place to eat outside
- 60 Empty wallet payment
- 61 Last name of '92 and '96 also-ran whose first name is a clue to 23, 25, and 53 across
- 62 Sought permission
- 63 Endowment conscious student org.
- 64 First name of a math professor whose last name is a place to eat
- 65 Controversial section of The Campus
- 66 Dulcet decorum _____
- 67 Former girlfriend of a certain Texas senator or an event that happens at Midd

Down:

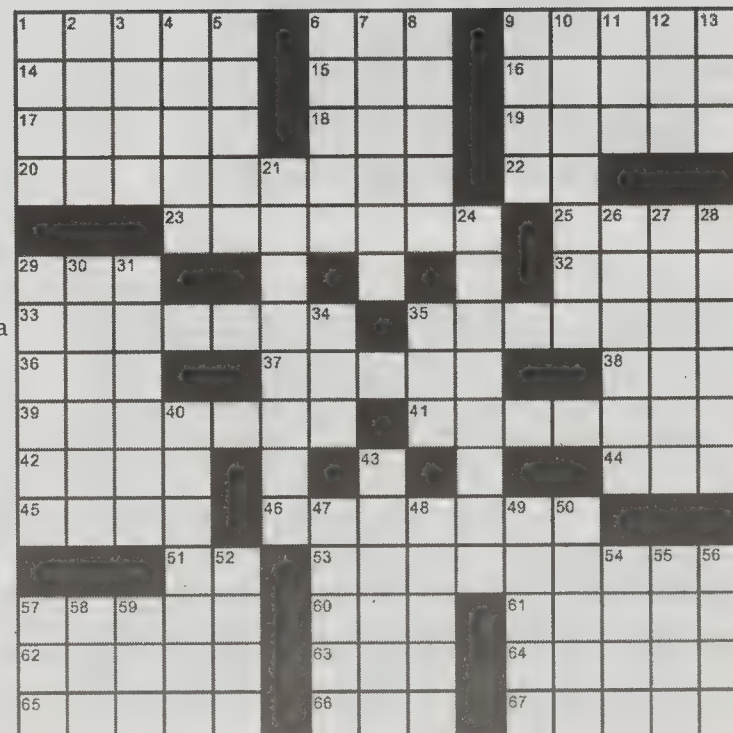
- 1 Goods, on opposite day
- 2 Our Lady of Peace, abbr.
- 3 ____-la ("Howfancy!")
- 4 Expression of disgust
- 5 Farewell, to Manuel V alls
- 6 Branch of a fern
- 7 Middlebury clothes destroyers
- 8 How a poor speller might describe a low-cut dress
- 9 Like juice cleanses or Canada Goose jackets
- 10 Godfather to Thor
- 11 Butterfly-bee hybrid
- 12 Two Bros asks for two of them
- 13 Third-party on the line, for short
- 21 100m dash, eg.
- 24 Hotels in Ireland?
- 26 Where one gets a facial
- 27 Place to give your opinion anonymously
- 28 It might be seen running across Battell Beach on a Sunday

29 Group of bovines

- 30 Freshman in Brainerd or one who makes a soup
- 31 Doorway rain deflector 34
- Federal inmate Blagojevich
- 35 Boston band that almost played at Midd in Fall '13
- 40 Famous
- 43 There are five of them in Stew
- 47 Comeabout
- 48 Mixed-up Atwater living space
- 49 Brian Griffin or Scooby Doo
- 50 Note written at the top of a failed exam
- 52 Temporary housing, perma-

nent partying

- 54 Micro-____ (Small scale electricity network)
- 55 No, in the Aloha State
- 56 River which leads to Cerberus
- 57 Kung-____ chicken
- 58 Snake, in crosswords
- 59 Fraternity founded at Illinois Wesleyan University



Professors Share Stories of Hardship and Home for 'It Happens Here' Series

By Anastasia Capatina
Staff Writer

While students learn countless lessons from their professors — often through hours absorbing lectures and taking notes of problem set solutions or discussion points — there are certain subjects that, over months and years of class, go unaddressed. Last Thursday's installment of "It's Not What You Think," a new storytelling series started this January by President Patton, strived to change that.

Assistant Professor of Dance Christal Brown and Professor of Religion Larry Yarbrough gathered with a couple dozen students and faculty in the Abernethy Room in the Axinn Center to share their reflections on home and personal stories of hardship. The new "It's Not What You Think" speaker series discussion is part of the College's initiative to help build resilience and practice reflection on campus.

Moderated by Gaby Fuentes '16, Thursday's storytelling session focused on the shaping power of home. Both from the American South, Brown and Yarbrough discussed their feelings on growing up in their respective communities of Kinston, North Carolina, and Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Although the professors were raised in small, religious communities with similar levels of wealth, their experiences with racism growing up differed. Each speaker's stories on the particular topic complemented the other's in a way that made the audience wonder whether the pairing was chosen specifically because of this context.

"I thought it was really interesting that they picked Yarbrough, who grew up in the Deep South during the civil rights movement, and to contrast his experiences with Brown's experiences," said

Richard Brach '16.5. "It was interesting how they grew up in similar areas, but totally on the other side of the racial issue."

Lucy Grinnan '19.5 agreed. "It was interesting to hear their discussion of race coming from a white man and a black woman because they're such different experiences," she said. "I think it's really valuable to hear people talk about their vastly different experiences with that much respect."

Grinnan, whose family recently left her longtime home in Virginia, also added, "My views on home have just shifted and it's something that I have really struggled with lately. It was valuable for me to hear someone struggling with the same kind of ideas about being a modern person in a place that is obsessed with the past."

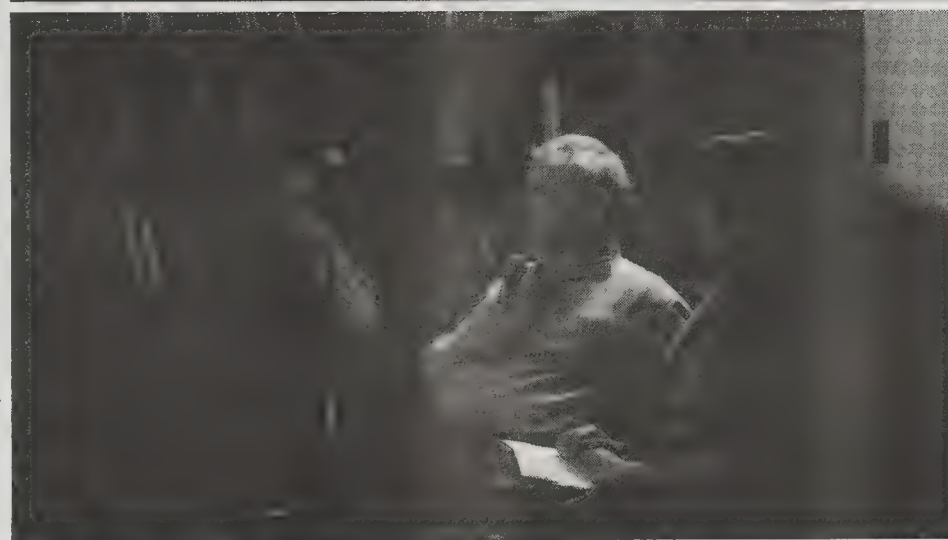
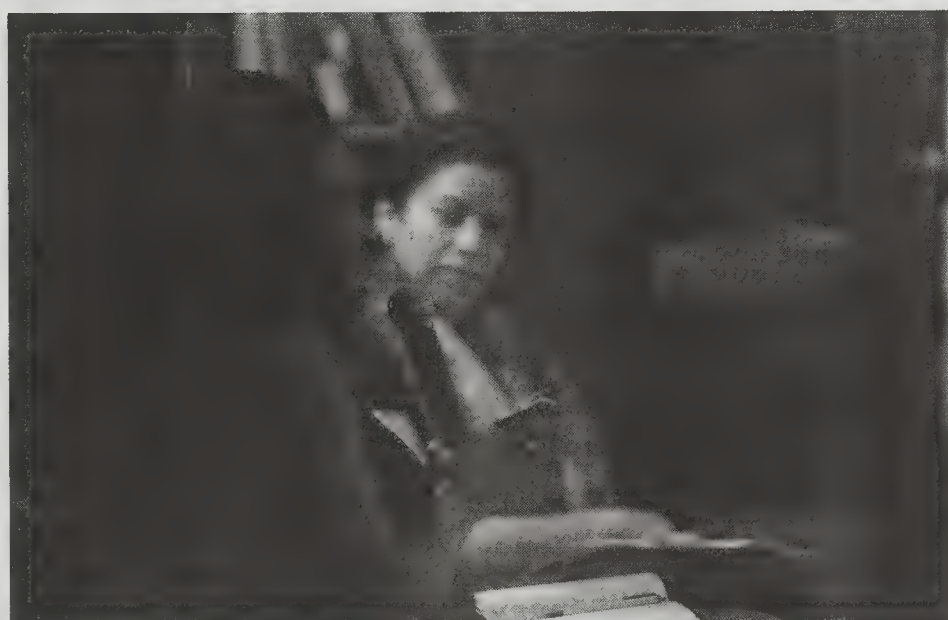
Brown and Yarbrough also shared the personal struggles they overcame and triumphs they reached in their academic and, eventually, professional endeavors.

Leila Faulstich-Hon '19.5 left the hour feeling "... so joyful. I think part of that is just recognizing the plurality of narratives around us. It's hard to step out of ourselves because you are your own world, but when you just sit down to listen to someone — and listening is such a skill — it makes you so excited to learn more about the people around you."

Erin Davis, an independent filmmaker in the town of Middlebury and a professor of the practice in the Film and

"It was valuable for me to hear someone struggling with the same kind of ideas about being a modern person in a place that it obsessed with the past."

LUCY GRINNAN '19.5



MICHAEL O'NARA

Top: Assistant Professor of Dance Christal Brown spoke of growing up in North Carolina. Bottom: Professor of Religion Larry Yarbrough described the civil rights movement in the South.

Media Culture department, is developing a plan to turn the speaker series into an online podcast, available to students and faculty alike. Davis taught an interdisciplinary course in the fall titled Sounds of Childhood, which aimed to combine the academic study of childhood with the skills of sound production. Davis, the vocal host of the podcast, is currently producing and editing the audio content for the project.

"I'm creating a short series of pilot episodes that should be ready for launching next fall," Davis said. "I expect it will be available online. It would be great for the college radio station. I'd love that."

Whether heard online, over the radio

or in the flesh, the stories of this series will aim to foster reflection in the community, and will remind listeners to consider each other's personal experiences.

Brown reflected on the event's significance.

"This is one of the rare occasions that students actually get to see their professors as people," she said. "And I think that taking advantage of that should be a reciprocal process, because we often are in situations where one is in the position of giving knowledge and the other is in the position of taking knowledge. We need to make more opportunities to learn from one another."

'Macaroni & Choose' Truck to Open in April

By Will McDonald
Contributing Writer

While most students spent J-Term hitting the slopes or catching up on sleep, Maryam Mahboob '18 was hard at work, albeit outside of the classroom. For Mahboob, J-Term marked a time for fundraising and for the first test of her food start-up, Macaroni and Choose (M&C, formerly known as M.A.C.), among Middlebury students.

Mahboob, who thought of the idea during a workshop at MiddCORE last summer, first sought to create a supermarket brand of condiments for macaroni and cheese. However, according to Mahboob, this quickly changed into a project she found more feasible.

"The idea became a late-night mac and cheese food truck on campus, called the M&C Truck, built around the idea that students can choose condiments to enjoy with their mac and cheese, such as fresh thyme, blueberries and tuna," Mahboob said. "M&C's primary objective is to provide inexpensive, wholesome, local and organic mac and cheese during a time when such a meal is most needed among students — late at night."

In order to test the concept, Mahboob gathered some friends and ran one night of

delivery over J-term as a test. Despite only advertising through a handful of posters and Facebook posts, the event was a huge success. Another test, this time with a few delivery kinks worked out, is planned for March 18.

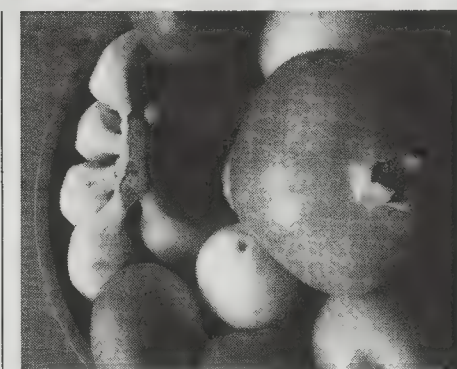
After the full launch, which Mahboob hopes to complete by mid-April, M&C will have two main components. One will be the M&C truck, parked in the Proctor parking lot, where students can walk up and order food themselves. The second will be a campus-wide delivery service to those willing to pay a small fee in exchange for macaroni and cheese delivered right to their door. Mahboob stressed that while the truck may not end up being an actual food truck due to logistical difficulties in obtaining a vehicle, M&C will still have a flagship location there in some form.

Through MiddSTART, the College's crowdfunding site, Mahboob surpassed

her goal of \$2,000 from members of the Middlebury community. She ultimately raised \$2,368 from 51 donors. While Mahboob's current projection is that the truck will operate at a bit of a loss even if she takes no wages for her work, this is not the plan for long.

"My long-term hope for M&C is that it one day takes the form of a social enterprise, where a portion of the profits goes back into the community," Mahboob said. "At the moment, however, my hope is that M&C reaches a point of self-sustainability."

"M&C isn't just another dining option," she added. "The difference between M&C and other food ventures on campus is that M&C is built on a dream and is working towards a goal — serving inexpensive, wholesome, late-night mac and cheese to Middkids, while building students' leadership skills, fostering community relationships and seeking to serve other parts of the community."



Wellness Tip of the Week

By Wellness Leaders
Contributing Columnists

Break Up the Routine

Putting in multiple hours of work at a time? Break it up! Studies show that taking a break every 15-25 minutes can help you be more productive and efficient in the long run. Taking a short walk, chatting with a friend, getting some tea, power napping or watching a few YouTube clips can actually mean better work.

ARTS & SCIENCES

The Middlebury Campus

Sexpectations Discusses Hookup Culture

By Elizabeth Zhou
Arts & Sciences Editor

Only in a show entitled *Sexpectations* would it make sense to utter the words "biddy," "Atwater" and "Grindr" within mere minutes of each other. Last weekend (March 11-12), students flooded the Hepburn Zoo to watch the first ever play based on Middlebury hookup culture. Written and directed by Mary Baillie '18 and Roxy Adviento '18, *Sexpectations* was born from 57 anonymously submitted stories and brought to life by 10 students: Haroon Ashraf '18, Sam Boudreau '19, Stella Boye-Doe '19, Emily Cipriani '19.5, Ian Driscoll '18.5, Lucie Heerman '19, Ojaswi Pandey '18, Madelyn O'Kelley-Bangsberg '19.5, Omar Valencia '19 and Elizabeth Warfel '19. Following a mere two weeks of rehearsals, the cast danced, delivered monologues and occasionally donned scanty outfits in a humorous and at times uncomfortable reflection of life at the College.

Describing the show as "a series of depictions of the stupid stories that everyone has to go through every day at this place," Baillie was intentional in portraying as many experiences as possible.

"We wanted to represent a diverse range of people, because hooking up can mean so many different things to different people," she said. "We tried to use all the definitions."

The play opens with a scene that is likely all too familiar (and cringe-worthy) to many: A swarm of sweaty bodies moves to a pulsing beat in an Atwater suite. The room smells of cheap alcohol, and an eager male student, played by Valencia, is in search of a hookup for the night. His inner monologue blares through the speakers as he surveys the room: "Okay, Matty. This is it. This is the night when you finally finally get some legit, real-life pussy. Do not f*ck this up." When he finally finds Lisa, played by Cipriani, on the dance floor, awkwardness immediately ensues – from the moment he utters the phrase "Yeah, baby" in a misguided attempt at sexiness to a run-in with Lisa's roommate that prevents the two of them from ever getting past first base.

The disastrous night ends with the

roommate, portrayed by Boye-Doe, saying to Matty, "Umm....can you get the f*ck out now?" Overwhelming sympathy seemed to be the sentiment in the room, as the scene likely prompted audience members to relive their own awkward hookup experiences, be it untimely boners or a "cock-blocking" roommate.

A sense of goofy self-awareness pervaded much of the show, particularly in scenes centered on Tinder, the popular dating app, and Grindr, its gay-male equivalent. Tia, played by O'Kelley-Bangsberg, smiled and waved to the audience while an invisible narrator read her profile out loud in a tone so exaggeratedly serious, it could have fit right into a National Geographic documentary.

"Tia is a sex-positive gal looking to have fun. Sunglass emoji," the narrator stated. "Ergo, she wants to weed out the creepers. Her pictures consist of one mysterious selfie, one sexy group with her friends, one smiling and one full body pic. Tia doesn't want to work on her profile much because she is not THAT desperate."

In acknowledging the ridiculous amount of thought that goes behind any online dating profile, *Sexpectations* perhaps validated many audience members' own self-doubt.

Meanwhile, the Grindr skit featured a wide range of gay males, from an anonymous lurker to a toned, 6'1" guy who likes long walks on the beach, to the boldly named user "BottomBoy248." Portrayed hilariously by Driscoll, this final character states with an unabashed eagerness that he enjoys "choking on cock, getting pounded hard, hands tied, rough stuff." The crowd watched on curiously as the males attempted to navigate this provocative, complex and at times frustrating platform, where users may block, other users upon receiving an unflattering face pic, have their boundaries pushed to uncomfortable extremes or arrange for a sexual interaction within minutes of virtually meeting one another.

Grindr can be a strange and scary place, but it can also lead to lighthearted fun between individuals who would not have otherwise connected. *Sexpectations* sought to shed light on both of these aspects. Baillie and Adviento consulted



ANNIE TONG

Two students make out in a freshman double, to the dismay of the girl's roommate.

with members of the cast who were familiar with app to ensure that the scene was representative of Grindr culture. They explained that the characters they chose to spotlight did not stem from common stereotypes of gay males (although that may have seemed to be the case), but rather from real-life accounts of stereotypical Grindr profiles.

Amid the silly reenactments, the show gave way to several moments of somber reflection concerning inequity within heterosexual relationships. In a tense interaction between a male and female student, played respectively by Boudreau and Warfel, the boy demands a blow job from the girl on the false assumption that she will "want it again." When she refuses, he responds, "What the f*ck?! Okay fine bitch, whatever."

The emotional monologue that Warfel delivers in the next scene recognizes the "strange barbed wire of careful sexuality" that females must walk if they want to participate in college hookup culture.

"I like to have sex, have fun and be liberated. But there can only be so much, ya know?" Warfel states. "They see my body, I see theirs. But when they don't even know my f*cking name, I literally become just a f*ckable body."

Another point of concern arises during the Atwater scene, as bodies bump and shake against one another in the semi-darkness.

"Stop touching me!" one girl exclaims.

"Well, f*ck you then!" the random guy who is trying to grind on her responds.

In our world of structural gender inequality, women are simultaneously shamed for their sexuality and expected to go out of their way to please their male partners, regardless of their own desires. Meanwhile, consent exists as a blurry concept rather than as the bare minimum for all interactions. Sexism and double standards are not a problem of the past – and in refusing to shy away from the painful, lived experiences of individuals all around us, *Sexpectations* offered a powerful contribution to a dialogue that deserves far more attention than it currently receives on our campus.

Beyond the acknowledgement of harmful patriarchal norms, the show also brought to light subtle, but equally concerning, issues concerning race and gender. At one point, the characters all describe their "type." Their answers include "smart athletes," "Ben Wyatt," "the slightly geeky but still coordinated music enthusiast," "high IQ" and "someone who stops when I say 'no'" – but some mention racial and ethnic stereotypes, such as "half Asian, half white guys," "Jewish guys," "black guys," "Hispanics," "Scandinavians" and "girls from Russia." The fact that these phrases came from real-life submissions is concerning, as they reflect society's tendency to fetishize members of different identity groups based on racist generalizations. Even worse, the problematic nature of these preferences often goes unchecked, since they are perceived as compliments rather than as objectification.

During the scene in which a girl makes out with her Atwater hookup, her "sexiled" roommate says angrily, "Wait, what?! I swear this is the third time!" to which she responds, "I'm no slut." The culture of slut-shaming – that is, the sense of inferiority that society instills in young women whose sexual expression clashes with traditionally rigid, patriarchal norms – rings painfully clear in this exchange. Whether intentionally or not, *Sexpectations* brought this unfair double standard to light, and in doing so, hopefully pushed some audience members to think twice about their own choice of words.

It is unclear how aware the playwrights were of the implications behind these subtly problematic scenes. After all, the purpose of the show was to portray hookup culture on campus as it currently exists, not as how it ought to be. In terms of entertainment value, *Sexpectations* was a success, bringing laughter to every corner of the room and reminding us just how endearingly awkward young love can be when it is not taking place on the Atwater dance floor. On a more uncomfortable note, it also revealed the ways in which we, as a campus community and as products of large-scale media messaging, may not be nearly as progressive as we consider ourselves to be.



ANNIE TONG

A male student contemplates his next move in the middle of an Atwater dance party.

DON'T MISS THIS

Drug Discovery Chemistry Lecture

Rockefeller University Professor Sean Brady, PhD, is giving a lecture titled "Watch your step, there is new chemistry everywhere." His lab isolates useful natural products from soil microbes using sequencing-based screening and DNA cloning in model bacterial systems.

3/18, 1:45 P.M., MBH

Detroit '67 Performance

Detroit '67 is the first play in the Detroit trilogy by award-winning playwright Dominique Morisseau. Set to the Motown music that originated right in Detroit, this play explores an explosive and decisive moment in a great American city using compelling characters who struggle with racial tension and economic instability.

3/17, 3/18, 3/19, 7 P.M., AND 3/18, 10 P.M., HEPBURN ZOO

Faculty Dance Concert

The Dance Program offers samples of faculty choreography, featuring works by Christal Brown, Scotty Hardwig, Tzvetta Kassabova and Katie Martin. This performance contains adult content and partial nudity. Tickets: \$12 Public/\$10 Middlebury ID holder/\$6 Middlebury Students

3/18, 8 P.M., MCA DANCE THEATER

PERFORMING ARTS SPOTLIGHT

By Connor Forrest
Senior Columnist

According to Nimrod Sadeh '17.5, cellist and co-President of the Middlebury College Orchestra, "Attending a chamber recital is watching and listening to four people conjure a temporal realm, a celestial world where the creative energies of all members are understood without words, a communicative work of art in real-time. Playing chamber music is the closest thing we have to telepathy, and Jupiter's magic is that they have mastered it."

As we welcome Jupiter String Quartet's seventh Middlebury performance this Wednesday, March 23, we invite you to join the party. Performing with the dastardly duo of duos will be violist Roger Tapping and cellist Natasha Brofsky. This will mark the eighteenth time Tapping has graced our halls. Together, the group will perform works by Schubert and Brahms, as well as Schoenberg's haunting and beautiful "Transfigured Night."

The Jupiter String Quartet is known around the world for its blazing, passionate and energetic performances. What truly sets the group apart, however, is the unparalleled chemistry and communication visible in every piece. Chamber music is unique in that it vigorously diminishes the stodgy barriers that could keep new audiences from enjoying the genre. Equally important to hearing the music is watching the interplay between musicians as they form an organic composition that is built on sheet music but can tower as high as the group can take it. For Jupiter String Quartet, the stars are the limit.

The quartet's strong sense of connection is partly due to their intense musical attention to one another, but it is also due to the fact that they are literally family. Within the quartet, violist Liz Freivogel and second violinist Megan Freivogel are sisters, and Megan is married to cellist Daniel McDonough. Violinist Nelson Lee rounds out the quartet. Their guest artists — violist Roger Tapping and cellist Natasha Brofsky — are also a married couple. This level of intimacy between players adds a layer of dimension to their playing that unlocks pieces in a way that is rarely experienced.



BRIAN STAUJER

Jupiter String Quartet has been together for thirteen years. They will be performing works by Schubert and Brahms on March 23.

Performing Arts Series Director Alison Coyne Carroll writes, "It's only into the hands of family that I would entrust a story as intimate as Schoenberg's 'Transfigured Night.' This lush, dense and highly chromatic work is inspired by a poem by German poet Richard Dehmel, describing a couple in love walking through the woods on a moonlit night. She reveals she's pregnant with another man's child, a man she never loved. The man lovingly accepts her, and the child as if his own; and the unborn child, man, woman and the night itself are transfigured from darkness into light."

Now in their thirteenth year of making music together, the members of this tightly knit ensemble perform across the United States, Canada, Europe, Asia

and South America. As winners of an Avery Fisher Career Grant and a Cleveland Quartet Award from Chamber Music America, they have enjoyed playing in some of the world's finest halls, including New York's Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center and the Library of Congress. From 2007 to 2010, the Quartet was in residence at the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center's Chamber Music Two.

Now, they are the String Quartet-in-Residence at the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana, where they maintain

private studios as well as responsibility for running the chamber music program.

Doors for the Jupiter String Quartet concert with Roger Tapping and Natasha Brofsky will open on Wednesday, March 23 at 7:30 p.m. in the Mahaney Center for the Arts.

Tickets are only \$6 for students. To find more information or purchase tickets, stop by either of the box offices in McCullough or the MCA. Visit go/

freetickets to learn about the MCA's various opportunities for complimentary tickets.

Chamber music is unique in that it vigorously diminishes the stodgy barriers that could keep new audiences from enjoying the genre.

PLAYWRIGHTS ON THEIR PLAYS

By Aashna Aggarwal,
Alex Herdman, Lana Meyer and
Lisa Mordkovich
Contributing Columnists

What is the difference between color-blind and color-conscious casting? Though both concepts allow for more diversity on stage, the distinction between them is an important one to make. In using color-blind casting, a director selects an actor for a role, regardless of the actor's race and ethnicity in relation to the role as written by the playwright. Color-blind casting sees no boundaries.

Let's consider *The Mountaintop* by Katori Hall. The protagonist in this show is Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. A production at Kent State University in Ohio cast a white actor in the role of MLK. The director claimed that it was an exploration of character rather than race in order to deepen the teachings of MLK. Although the director's intentions were good, we believe that this choice actually detracts from the power of seeing a black man tell a story of black struggle. The playwright openly opposed the choice, claiming that it diminished the role of an entire community behind the civil rights movement. We propose that this is where a choice must be made between color-blind and color-conscious casting. When a play's subject matter is so deeply tied to ethnicity, we must be aware of the ethnic

identity in question.

Another problem arises, however: with actors of color still significantly underrepresented on stages across the world, how can we close the employment

gap and still respect both the playwright's intended vision and the perspectives of our nation's myriad of cultural identities? Color-conscious casting may be the best answer to this dilemma. Unlike color-blind casting, color-conscious casting takes the race of performers into account when planning a production. This is not to say that parts that have been traditionally played by white actors must continue to be so cast; in fact,

it means just the opposite. In color-conscious casting, race is not ignored, but rather embraced; an actor's race and ethnic background contribute to his or her unique portrayal of a role, and the production benefits from the inclusion of a perspective not traditionally represented onstage.

It is no easy task to balance the playwright's vision, the perspectives of the nation and the potential effects of a color-blind casting, but that is precisely why it is so important. We endorse color-conscious casting because it centers on the awareness of race and not ignorance.

Take, for instance, the Broadway hip-hop musical *Hamilton*, the story of white founding father Alexander Hamilton and his white contemporaries, performed almost entirely by actors of color.

Lin Manuel-Miranda, the show's creator and star, emphasizes that his musical is "the story of America then told by America now." Here, the race of the performers and their cultural musical traditions are integral to the show's concept. Color-conscious casting seeks to promote and increase the opportunities for performers of color by acknowledging and appreciating the role that race and ethnicity play in an actor's interpretation and presentation of a role, and understanding that inclusion of different points of view can only enrich the experience of the play for the cast, crew and audience.

It is no easy task to balance the playwright's vision, the perspectives of the nation and the potential effects of color-blind casting, but that is precisely why it is so important. We endorse color-

conscious casting because it centers on the awareness of race and not ignorance. What is the effect of a casting choice on the audience, the content of the play and the playwright's vision? The more conscious one can be in casting, the more progress we can make toward encouraging the creation of plays with racially flexible characters, which provides greater and fairer acting opportunities. Color-blind casting does not cut it, especially on the collegiate level. Many of the problems directors face in casting with respect to race can be solved by hand-picking shows that are, by nature, more diverse, fluid and flexible in terms of racial representation.

Furthermore, casting consciousness is not solely limited to race; it also includes gender, sexual orientation, age and other such identifiers. While it is important to take all aspects of an actor's identity into account, we cannot forget that stepping into a theater goes hand in hand with suspending one's disbelief. Within the College's theatre department, we strive to engage in critical discussions surrounding race, ethnicity and related issues. Just two years ago, the faculty gave a talk on how race plays into their casting choices. The very fact that this conversation took place is a sign that things are changing, even if the solution is not yet in sight.

THE BACHELOR RUNDOWN: FINAL ROSE EDITION



By Cole Merrell
Contributing Writer

Once every year or so, ABC graces us with a season of television unlike any other; one lucky man (or woman) has the opportunity to date approximately 25 mostly-white women (or mostly-white men), all desperate for love. As the season goes on, the "bachelor" (or "bachelorette") slowly eliminates people until they are left with two in the final episode. In the series finale, these final two contestants meet the parents of the bachelor, who then chooses one of them to propose to, and one to kick to the curb. As someone who has watched *The Bachelor* and all its offshoots religiously since 2010 (Ali Fetodowsky's season), I found myself uniquely qualified to synopsise and review this *Bachelor* finale in the context of the many superb finales that have come before it.

This season has followed Ben Higgins, described by some as "the most boring bachelor of all time" on his quest for love. Ben began the season six weeks ago with 25 beautiful women, roughly 13 of whom appeared to be normal, gainfully employed and publicly sane. Going into the finale on Monday night, Ben had eliminated all but two: Lauren B., a fake southerner from Portland who won Ben's heart early on by quickly snagging the first one-on-one date, and JoJo, something of a dark horse in this competition, who really did not seem to make much of an impression on Ben until the second half of the season. Here is all you need to know to be caught up: against the rules of the show and his own better judgment, Ben has told both Lauren B. and JoJo that he is in love with them. Only one of them can win.

The following are my live reactions from watching the finale on Monday night:

Looks like this episode is going to take place in Jamaica. I'm not even going to get into the socioeconomic implications of that. It looks like Lauren B. will meet Ben's parents first – let's see if she can use her fake southern charm to convince them that her son proposing to someone he's known for six weeks is a good idea.

Lauren is able to immediately charm Ben's parents with a witty anecdote about their first date but does seem a little intimidated going into her conversation with Ben's mom (rightly so, perhaps – Mrs. Higgins has the facial expressions and general demeanor of a wryly discerning dachshund). Ben's mom doesn't seem all too impressed by Lauren B.'s golly-shucks southern belle vibe, emphasizing the difficult realities of marriage and occasionally suggesting with an awkward laugh that, perhaps, this whole experience makes her want to die inside. Mr. Higgins is little more forgiving in his chat with Lauren B., seeming most concerned by the length of his cargo shorts and occasionally gazing off into the distance, as if to wonder "I was young once, where did the years go?"

JoJo's outfit choice for meeting Ben's parents is a little more conservative than her usual apparel – definitely a smart play but potentially damaging in the long run, as wearing rompers have not boded well for women this season (we're looking at you, Jubilee). Ben's dad has little to say to JoJo, having seemingly DGAF'd the entire process by this point. Ben's mom seems touched by JoJo's tears, seemingly a little drunker than she was for Lauren B.'s visit and thus a bit more forgiving. By the time JoJo emphasizes that her and Ben's relationship was founded on an ability to get through hardships (to the degree that hardships can happen on what is essentially a three-month-long romantic vacation), Ben's mom is firmly in Camp JoJo.

Ben has taken after his father wardrobe-wise for both dates, opting to wear a simple blue polo that emphasizes the utter inoffensiveness of his personality, perhaps in a play to make us forget that he slept with three women last week only to send one of them home and immediately tell the other two that he loved both

of them. His facial stubble, an interesting variable to watch out for in an otherwise bland season, has grown to the peak of its pathetic amplitude. After introducing both women to his parents, Ben returns home to get their take on the situation, which is, basically: "Aww, honey, we really liked both of them, especially that JoJo. They were both great, but that JoJo really is a lovely gal."

Ben walks off into what looks to be a Chrysler Town & Country (at what point in the season did they stop chartering limos?), muttering to himself like a small child with an Adderall addiction. "What am I going to do?" he shivers dramatically. "I'm in love with two women. And I love both of them."

When we return from commercial break, a freshly shaven Ben embarks on his (final?) date with Lauren B., emphasizing that he has prayed a lot for guidance about what the right decision would be. You go Ben, never compromise those morals that got you this gig. Lauren B. and Ben's date consists of riding around on a boat in Jamaica and kissing each other's necks, but it's not all fun and games. In her talking head about two minutes into the date, Lauren shrewdly notes that "[Ben] has a heavy head," beginning to worry about the state of his relationship with JoJo.

When she asks Ben if he has any doubts, he immediately replies, "No." This is the man who has spent the entire episode telling us how conflicted he is because he is in love with two women. Ben goes on to say that Lauren B. is too perfect, ending his speech with a poignant thought (and this is an actual transcript that I rewinded multiple times to get right): "When things get too good to be true, I get v – really nervous. I mean, I, I, I knew I loved you f – in like, right away and I didn't even know why. And it freaks me out and it's weird and it's crazy and it's good and it's life. What in the hell is hap – like, that's where my mind's at, is just..." That's it. Never let it be said that men on *The Bachelor* aren't perfectly capable of expressing their feelings.

Ben goes on to talk about how his relationship with Lauren is too perfect – as opposed to his relationship with JoJo, the other gorgeous woman he has been traveling around the world with for the past six weeks, which is, apparently, not too perfect. But maybe better? At this point in the episode I'm unsure, confused and ready to get off Ben Higgins' wild ride.

The night portion of Ben and Lauren B.'s date brings little in the way of clarity. Ben broods like a less interesting Bruce Wayne, staring at Lauren B. like he knows that she would never date him outside of this show. "Lauren, no matter what happens ... you've made this whole thing better," Ben says before leaving, not exactly providing the assurance she might expect of the man who is potentially proposing to her in two days. The date ends with the haunting words of a red-eyed Lauren B., looking a bit like a wounded baby hawk whose mother has not brought it food for some time now: "I feel like tonight was the last time I heard Ben say that he loves me. I don't really know ... I don't really know what I would do." And so we enter commercial break, our hearts somber and Lauren B.'s romantic horizons looking dim.

We come back from commercial break to even more stock videos of the Jamaican countryside, but JoJo walks into frame before too long. Ben immediately begins kissing her neck and making "grr" noises. "I am confident I am going to be Ben's wife," says a steely JoJo in one of her talking heads, presenting a stark contrast to the constant fretting



Ben proposed to Lauren B., an early frontrunner, on Monday night's *Bachelor* finale.

of Lauren B. this episode. Us longtime *Bachelor* watchers, though, will be quick to note that finale bait-and-switches are quite common, so perhaps JoJo should not be so confident after all.

Stuff happens, Ben and JoJo are kissing under a waterfall and eventually she begins pressing a newly defensive Ben for information about why he is being such a weirdo. "Let me guess, there's two people ... and you're confused," probes JoJo, to which Ben tactfully replies, "Yeah." At this point, both girls are terrified that Ben loves the other one more and the show takes a noticeable uptick in quality. This is why we watch *The Bachelor* – to

watch people terrified of having their hearts broken have their hearts broken. When JoJo begs Ben to tell her one thing about their relationship that worries him, he replies that there isn't one, to which she begins frenetically breathing and twitching. This is the face of desperation, of a woman who has no power over her own happiness.

"I feel like I always have to compete with other people; I'm so tired of competing," cries JoJo after accosting Ben on the floor of his hotel bathroom, seemingly unaware that she is currently a part of a reality dating competition, where competing is sort of the point. After some more bathroom-floor crying by both parties, JoJo takes us into commercial break by powerfully setting the stakes for the rest of the episode: "The next time I see [Ben, he] could make me the happiest person or ... could make me heartbroken, you know?" Oh we know, JoJo. We know.

After roughly another seven minutes of Ben brooding in a resort wicker chair, in a hotel bed, and on a balcony to his own dramatic voiceover (at one point, he actually says, "I'm a lost man right now"). Ben gets a special visit from Neil Lane, famous jeweler and perennial *Bachelor* finale visitor who gives the bachelor a free engagement ring, usually massive and gaudy, in exchange for gobs of free publicity. But alas! As Ben gazes at the ring he has chosen, he says with a sly grin, "I think I know who I'm going to pick." Neil Lane doesn't react – we all know he doesn't give a s*** but, for how much they're paying him, the least he could do is pretend to be interested.

Next, we're treated to a montage of both women getting ready for Ben to ei-

ther propose or break up with them. This is the moment we have all been waiting for, the peak of any *Bachelor* season and, perhaps, the part of the show that reveals the cruel barbarism it is at heart. Each of the women will helicopter to a private island to find Ben standing alone, suited up and holding an engagement ring. The first girl, whoever she is, is the reject, and Ben will cast her aside like leftover copies of Chris Harrison's failed romance novel. She will probably yell at him and cry a bunch, but will then be driven off in a discreet black SUV, never to be heard from again. Next will come the other girl, who Ben will propose to, hopefully with some kind of speech that makes up for the fact that he really only just made up his mind about all this yesterday. We cut to commercial break with baited breath.

First we see her feet stepping out of the helicopter, then the body of her dress. Soon, it becomes obvious. This is JoJo, first to the island, first runner up, the woman Ben will send home in a monumental display of exploitation porn. As JoJo approaches Ben we get a voiceover from her about how much she loves Ben and how she knows he would never blindsides her. JoJo gives Ben a heartbreaking monologue about trusting him, about him being her best friend in the world, about how she's never going to run from this. Ben responds, detached, avoiding eye contact. "I didn't know if I could find love... Um, I found it with you... but, I found it with somebody else more."

Pure spite from JoJo, who angrily looks into the distance and passive-aggressively tells Ben "it's fine" while on the verge of tears. "Can I walk you out?" Ben asks, to which JoJo replies, "If you want." She is emotionally desolated, having just realized that her hugely embarrassing moment will be broadcast on national television. "I want to go home," JoJo cries in the limo on the way home.

The rest of the episode is all kisses and roses. Lauren B. tells Ben that she didn't know love like this existed before him and Ben tells her that he never wants to say goodbye to her, falling on one knee and pulling a massive rectangular ring out of a small black box. "Lauren, will you marry me?" Ben asks, to which she sputters like an animatronic owl. They kiss to some incredibly romantic stock music, and, as Ben offers Lauren his final rose, the episode ends on a hopeful note, suggesting that love is available to all of us, even those who type reviews of reality television shows alone in their rooms late at night. Yes, if this season of *The Bachelor* has taught us anything, it's that love is available to all of us. Except for JoJo.

Indoor Track Finishes NCAA's with Record-Breaking Number of All-American Athletes

By Robert Erickson
Senior Writer

The 17 Middlebury athletes who travelled to Iowa last weekend (March 11-12) for the NCAA Division III Indoor Track Championships did more than hold their own against a highly competitive field.

The Panthers entered in six different events — including both the men and women in the 4x400 and distance medley relays, Adrian Walsh '16 in the 5,000 meter and Alex Morris '16 in the 400 meter — and secured All-American honors with top-eight finishes in all but one of these races.

Walsh, who crossed the line seventh in the 5k with a time of 17:10.78, described an atmosphere that likely intimidated even the most experienced runners.

"Overall, Nationals can be pretty overwhelming," Walsh said. "Spectators get rowdy, and the whole corraling process before races can be nerve-racking. We were able to fly out on Wednesday afternoon and preview the track on Thursday, which tends to calm everyone's nerves. I tried to stay as calm as possible throughout the whole travel process, and especially on race day, since I didn't race until 5:50 Central Time."

In fact, Walsh has been through the ordeal multiple times before; she drew upon her experience with a number of finishes just below the All-American cutoff to push herself past the threshold this time around.

"This was my third time to Indoor Nationals," she explained. "I qualified individually

while I was at Hamilton, and then the past two years I've qualified with Middlebury. Last year I missed All-American by one place after the laps were miscounted for the women's 5K, and the year prior I had also missed All-American by a small margin. In total I've earned four ninth-place finishes between Indoor and Outdoor Nationals, which has been difficult to say the least."

But in the end, Walsh cited her teammates as providing her with the greatest motivation throughout her training. She mentioned Alison Maxwell '15, who won the National Championship in the indoor mile last year, as being particularly influential.

"Watching Alison finish out her senior track seasons with three All-American finishes and a national title was so incredible," Walsh shared. "She has been such an inspiration to me since — and many others I'm sure. I knew what I wanted and needed to do going into this past race, and did my best to execute."

Helping to garner enough points to finish 24th out of 77 teams, the rest of the women's contingent finished eight or better in their respective races. In addition to Walsh's race on Friday, March 11 the distance medley relay team of Nicole Schachman '16, Kate McCluskey '18, Lauren Bougioukas '16 and Abigail Nadler '19 barely missed the podium, finishing in fourth with a time of 11:50.96.

Finale on Saturday, March 12 saw Morris finish eighth in the 400-meter dash with a time of 58.05. Morris served double duty, as she anchored the 4x400 relay team of Jackie

Kearney '16, Lucy Lang '19 and Paige Fernandez '17 to again cross the line in eighth with a time of 3:58.00.

The men's efforts were paced by the distance medley relay team of Kevin Serrao '18, Tyler Farrell '18, Lucas Carpinello '16 and Sam Cartwright '16, who barely edged the squad past NESCAC rival Conn. College for eighth place. In a stunning finish, Cartwright found the extra gear needed to overtake the Camel anchor just before the line, diving across to secure a spot on the All-American team by one one-hundredth of a second for a time of 10:07.24.

But fate wasn't so kind to the men's 4x400 team of Jimmy Martinez '19, James Mulliken '18, Brandon Cushman '16 and Alex Nichols '17, who missed qualifying for Saturday's final race by one one-thousandth of a second behind a squad from Wheaton.

The fact that this race was the quartet's fastest of the season by almost three full seconds made the result even harder to swallow. But with three quarters of the 4x400 returning next season, as well as a good number of the athletes who posted impressive finishes in other events throughout the season, the Panthers will be poised to build on their indoor success next winter.

With the spring outdoor season right around the corner, Walsh took a moment to reflect about where she and the rest of the seniors stand at the last juncture of their careers.

"This season has been phenomenal," she reflected. "It's been so exciting to train and

race in the new facility this year, and I really think every athlete has benefitted from training on such a fresh, fast track. The team has so much to look forward to, and I think everyone will continue to excel from here on out. I'm so excited to see what will be accomplished in the years to come. The team is undoubtedly ready to hit the ground running with the outdoor season."

The team will take this weekend off to train before traveling to California over spring break to compete in meets at Point Loma Nazarene University and UC San Diego.

BY THE NUMB3RS

16 Points recorded (6 G, 10 A) by women's lacrosse player Mary O'Connell '17 in the team's 3-0 week against RPI, Tufts and MIT.

More shots for the men's lacrosse team (59-30) in a 12-10 loss to Tufts on Saturday, March 12. **29**

5 Shutouts for women's hockey goaltender Julia Neuburger '18 this season, including one against UMass Boston in the NCAA

The margin by which Kevin Serrao '18, Tyler Farrell '18, Lucas Carpinello '16 and Sam Cartwright '16 earned All-American honors in the distance medley relay at Indoor Track NCAA Nationals. **0.01**

36 Wins in 36 matches for the men's and women's tennis teams this weekend against Bates and Hamilton.

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Men's Lacrosse Nearly Edges Top-Seeded Tufts

By Trevor Schmitt
Senior Writer

As the sun shined bright and Main Street bustled with attendees of the 8th Annual Vermont Chili Festival, the seventh-ranked Middlebury men's lacrosse team welcomed defending national champions and top-seeded Tufts to Youngman Field at Alumni Stadium on Saturday, March 12. After going down by three goals early in the game, the Panthers battled back to eventually tie their NESCAC rival in the fourth quarter before ultimately falling to the Jumbos by a score of 12-10.

The Jumbos got on the board quickly with a Jake Gillespie goal just 22 seconds into the contest, followed shortly by a nice finish from Tim Giarrusso '16 to tie the game at one apiece. Gillespie, along with the rest of the Tufts offense, maintained momentum and powered the Jumbos to a 3-0 run with his Gillespie's second of the day, in addition to tallies from Ben Andreyck and Austin Carbone over a span of just 1:50 in the first quarter. The Panthers stopped the bleeding with a rally from senior leadership as co-captain Jon Broome '16 found midfielder Jack Cleary '16 from behind the cage for a high shot to notch the score at 4-2 for the remainder of the first quarter.

The Panthers came out with a new level of intensity in the second quarter, peppering Tufts goaltender Alex Salazar with three shots in quick succession before Giarrusso found the net for his second goal of the day to bring the home team within one with 13:57 remaining. However, the Jumbos offense picked up right where it left off in the first quarter and responded by scoring four of the next five, including two bouncers from Cam Irwin and Kyle Howard-Johnson at 10:12 and 9:15, respectively. Again, a Panther senior stepped up to keep Middlebury in the game as Sean Carroll '16 converted a Broome feed with 6:46 remaining. After a pair of Tufts goals only 31 seconds apart from John Uppgren and Andreyck, the Panthers put together a quality extended possession that ultimately culminated in a Henry Riehl '18 goal and another Broome assist. Their efforts brought the score to 8-5 in favor of the Jumbos as the first half came to an end.

The game settled down in the second half as the Middlebury defense locked in and prevented the extended scoring streaks that had defined much of the first half. Instead, the Panthers put together a streak of their own with goals from Kyle Soroka '16 and

Jack Gould '19 at 10:51 and 9:29. Tufts' Connor Bilby responded to Middlebury's best offensive run of the day with a piece of individual talent in a nice dodge and finished with just 3:02 remaining in the third quarter. Momentum swung back to the home side, however, when solid play on both sides of the ball resulted in a Middlebury goal. After causing a turnover in the final minute, Parker Lawlor '18 scooped the ball before firing a goal with just eight seconds left to bring the Panthers within one heading into the final quarter.

Although Andreyck's third tally with 12:13 remaining gave the visitors the 10-8 advantage, Middlebury continued to demonstrate their defining grit and resolve throughout the final quarter. John Jackson '18 was a force from the faceoff, affording the Panthers valuable possession opportunities by going 15-25 in addition to scooping six ground balls. Gould got the offense rolling in the fourth, converting on a man-up opportunity just a minute before Lawlor scored his second unassisted goal of the day to level the score at 10-10 with 9:05 remaining. Only 20 seconds later, Gillespie dodged from the right side and found the back of the net for the eventual game-winning goal, while Andreyck added another at 7:38 to round-out Tufts' offensive effort. The Panthers fired four shots in the remaining minutes but could not pull any closer as Tufts took possession in the final minute and ran out the clock.

While ultimately unable to gain the advantage in scoring, the Panthers outplayed Tufts in many categories throughout the contest. Notably, Middlebury nearly doubled their opponent in shots, posting a 59-30 advantage as well as a 32-27 edge in ground balls. The Jumbos relied on consistent goaltending in the win, with Salazar recording 18 saves on the day while Will Ernst '17 made nine stops for the Panthers.

Clearing was a strength for both teams, with the Panthers finding success on 13 of their 15 opportunities, while the Jumbos went 18-22. Middlebury was 2-3 while playing with an extra man, while Tufts posted a goal in four tries.

"We just need to keep improving on a daily basis," said Broome, one of Middlebury's captains. "The game against Tufts showed that we can play with any team in the country, but it was also clear that we still have a lot of work on. Specifically, we need to be better in unsettled situations on both ends of the field."



IVAN VALLADARES

Middlebury junior defenseman, Quincy Nichols '17, chases down a member of the country's top-ranked team and conference rival, Tufts, on Saturday, March 12.

The Middlebury men's lacrosse team dropped their second straight game on Tuesday, March 15 when St. Lawrence came to Youngman Field at Alumni Stadium. In nail-biting double overtime fashion the Saints took a 14-13 victory from the Panthers at home, a place where victories traditionally do not come easily to opponents. As a result, Middlebury's record drops to 2-2; a line they will look to improve this Saturday when they travel to Wesleyan to play an ever-important NESCAC matchup. St. Lawrence returns to action on Saturday as well when they travel to Davenport, Fla. to take on Western New England University.

Both sides came out of the gate hot as the Saints' Conor Healy opened the game only 1:10 into the contest a little more than a minute before Cedric Rhodes '17 responded with an underhand strike from 10 yards away. The trend continued as Jordan Dow '18 put the guests back in front at 9:36, only to bring on another Middlebury response as Michael McCormack '19 ripped his first career goal with 9:12 remaining. St. Lawrence began to take the game over, however, as Healey and Dow led the Saints on a four goal run to put the visiting side up 6-2. After Jon Broome '16 finished a Jack Cleary '16 feed with only half a second left in the first quarter, Middlebury started the second quarter with a Rhodes man-up goal to make it a 6-4 contest with 13:49 left. Again, the Saints responded with

a multiple goal run to give the visitors the 8-4 advantage. To counter, Middlebury looked to its senior leadership and found some in the form of two straight goals from Broome, on scoop and dish assists from Kyle Soroka '16 and Harrison Goodkind '16, respectively. Andrew Jarret '17 gave St. Lawrence the 9-6 advantage heading into the half when he scored with only 24 seconds remaining.

After an offensively dominated first half which saw 15 goals, the third quarter had just three. Middlebury opened the final quarter by going on a four goal run of their own including the final two from a Jack Gould '19 goal and the same connection culminating in a Soroka goal to give the Panthers a 12-10 advantage with 10:47 left. After a two goal counter by the Saints and Gould's third of the day, an unassisted rip with only 2:11 left on the clock, Dow scored his fourth to equalize the contest at 13-13 and force overtime with just six seconds left. Sean Carroll '16 had the best look in the first four-minute overtime period when he found space 10 yards out but ripped it just high. St. Lawrence's Vautor then found space with just over a minute left in the second period, only to be denied by goalie Will Ernst '17, who had 10 saves on the day. After a Middlebury possession that yielded a pair of shots with a man-up chance, Dow ended the game in the closing seconds redirecting a pin-point pass by Alec Dietsch '17 from the right side for the Saint victory.

Women's Lacrosse Stays Undefeated Following Double Header on the Road

By Christine Urquhart
Senior Writer

The Middlebury women's lacrosse team continued their success with two wins this past weekend. Middlebury defeated Tufts 17-9 on Saturday, March 12 looking for vengeance from last year's loss, and then beat MIT 19-7 the following day in a non-conference collision. The Panthers improved their overall record to 4-0 and are currently ranked fourth in the nation.

"We had a big week this past week with three games over five days and are so excited about how we played," Team Captain Laurel Pascal '16 said. "What is so great about our team is that we have so much depth and talent, so it was truly a team effort."

Said team effort began with Saturday's conference matchup against Tufts. The Panthers dominated the first half, scoring the first six goals of the game, two each by Bridget Instrum '16 and Bea Eppler '17, to take a commanding lead just 11 minutes in. Mary O'Connell '17 assisted on two of the scores.

However, the Jumbos came roaring back, scoring four of the next five goals

to pull within three, 7-4, with time left in the half. The Panthers quickly pounced by scoring another three, concluding the opening half with a 10-4 lead. Instrum started the burst with back-to-back goals.

Again Tufts did not accept defeat and responded immediately in the second half, scoring the first two goals to make it 10-6. Once again, the Panthers fired back by scoring four of the next five goals in quick succession, bringing the game to 14-7.

"I think a focus of ours has really been to dominate the other team in terms of possession. We've been really successful in our defensive ride and our defense which has resulted in us just having the ball in our sticks more."

MARY O'CONNELL '17

goals, thrashing Tufts 17-9. Pascal and Eppler had three goals and O'Connell finished with four assists, earning her NESCAC Player of the Week honors. Alli Sciarretta '16 also netted five goals in the Panthers victory.

Riding high off revenge against Tufts, the Panthers returned to action the following day against MIT for a non-conference game. Similar to the Tufts game, the Panthers dominated on the

way to a commanding 19-7 victory.

The game started with a spate of goals, with both teams combining for three goals in the span of 39 seconds. The match was closest with 9:07 in the first half at a score of 6-5. However, that was short lived. The Panthers clenched down on the defensive end of the field by not allowing a goal the rest of the half, all the while scoring the final six goals. Kate Hodgson '16 scored twice, while Hollis Perticone '18, Sciarretta and Hailey Cosseboom '17 each netted one to finish the first half with a 12-5 score.

Middlebury continued to dominate in the second half, scoring three more goals. Building on the scoring, the Panthers led 15-5 with 17:45 left in the game. MIT tried to respond but only mustered two more goals, and Middlebury won 19-7.

Defensively the Panthers once again gave an incredible performance lead by Maggie Caputi '16 who scooped up four ground balls and Evie Keating '18 who had three ground balls and caused a pair of turnovers.

"The team has been focusing on aggressive defense and dynamic attack, which has paid off... and has given [the Panthers] a big step up against [their] opponents" Pascal said.

After such a dominant start to the season (and on the road no less), it should be a near fever pitch environment when the Panthers host NESCAC opponent Wesleyan at noon on Saturday, March 19th in their home opener.

THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT EIGHT

RANKING	TEAM	Piunkett's Predictions
1	WOMEN'S HOCKEY	<i>This team is on a roll in postseason play so far and I expect that to continue.</i>
2	TRACK & FIELD	<i>Both teams combined for 13 All-American honors at the National Championship meet.</i>
3	MEN'S LACROSSE	<i>Despite the loss, this team proved they can hang with the top competition.</i>
4	WOMEN'S LACROSSE	<i>Undefeated on the road, not a bad way to start.</i>
5	SKIING	<i>Panther skiers held their own on the national stage, finishing 11th.</i>
6	TENNIS	<i>It's early, but things look good for both squads.</i>
7	GOLF	<i>I'm excited for our golfers as they prepare to hit the links this spring.</i>
8	BASEBALL	<i>Hoping for some improvement over last season. We'll see...</i>

PANTHER TENNIS SQUADS UNBEATEN AFTER OPENING WEEKEND

By Andrew Rigas
Sports Editor

By some miracle, the men's and women's tennis teams played outdoors on the first weekend of the spring season, a rarity in Vermont, and they dominated. Both teams shut out Bates and Hamilton 9-0 on Saturday, March 12, to move to 2-0 in the NESCAC and overall. Nine different players for the men's side earned at least one victory, while all eight healthy members of the women's team won on Saturday, March 12.

The men's team, which is ranked third in the nation, opened their season in the Duke Nelson Recreation Center against no. 22 Bates on Saturday morning. In doubles, the pairs of Noah Farrell '18 and Ari Smolyar '16, Palmer Campbell '16 and Hamid Derbani '18 and Will de Quant '18 and Timo van der Geest '18 won 8-5, 8-6 and 8-2 in first, second and third doubles, respectively.

In the only match where a Panther lost a set all day, no. 1 in the nation Noah Farrell '18, competing in his first match since winning the singles national title in the fall, defeated no. 25 Josh Rosen 6-0, 3-6, 13-11. In other singles action, no. 24 Smolyar beat Chris Ellis 6-0, 6-4 in the second spot and Campbell, de Quant, Derbani and van der Geest also won in straight sets in third through sixth singles, in that order.

Later that morning, the Panthers moved outside to the Proctor tennis courts to face Hamilton, who had not

won a match in the NESCAC since 2013. The same three doubles' pairs defeated the Continentals. Farrell and Smolyar shut out their opponent 8-0 in first doubles, while Campbell and Derbani won 8-5 in the second slot and de Quant and van der Geest won 8-2 the third slot.

Head Coach Bob Hansen showcased his team's depth, choosing to rest Farrell, Smolyar and de Quant and start Kyle Schlanger '18, Peter Martin '19 and Cole Sutton '19. Schlanger, Martin and Sutton defeated their opponents, while Campbell, Derbani and van der Geest also took care of business in straight sets in the fourth, fifth and sixth spots respectively to cap off a perfect day and start to the season for Hansen's squad.

"The team is gaining momentum as we head out west for spring break," said Campbell. "We look to avenge last year's loss in the NCAA final and knock off defending national champion Claremont-Mudd-Scripps."

The sixth-ranked women's team played both of its matches outdoors on Saturday, winning all 18 of its matches without losing a set. In doubles play of its first match against Hamilton, Ria Gerger '16 and Kaysee Orozco '17 won 8-3 in first doubles, Lily Bondy '17 and Sadie Shackelford '16 shut out their opponent 8-0 in the second slot and Molly Paradies '19 and Christina Puccinelli '19 conceded only one game in the third slot, winning their first collegiate doubles match together 8-1.

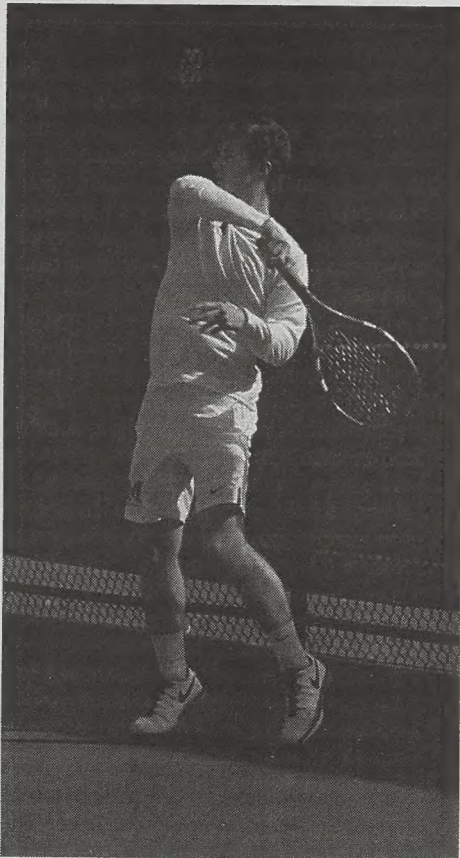
Singles play was even more one-sided as the Panthers outscored the Continentals 72-3 in total games won. Gerger did not concede a game at the top of the ladder, and Paradies and Shackelford followed suit, both winning 6-0, 6-0. On the second, third and fourth rungs of the ladder, Alexandra Fields '17 (6-1, 6-0), Bondy (6-0, 6-1) and Puccinelli (6-1, 6-0) all only lost one game.

Middlebury handled Bates in a similar fashion later in the day. The Panthers only lost two games in all of their doubles matches combined, as the same pairings from the morning matches versus Hamilton brought in more victories. Bondy and Shackelford swept their opponent for the second straight match in the second slot, while Gerger and Orozco won 8-1 in the first slot and Paradies and Puccinelli did the same in the third slot.

All six Panthers won in straight sets in singles: Gerger (6-2, 6-0), Fields (6-3, 6-1), Puccinelli (6-3, 6-1), Paradies (6-1, 6-2), Lauren Amos '16 (6-2, 6-3) and Orozco (6-0, 6-1).

"As a team, we have been putting in more hours than we ever have," Gerger said. "If anything, our most noteworthy performance has been what has happened before match-day."

Both teams will host Wesleyan this upcoming Saturday, March 19. The Cardinals' men's team is ranked 23rd nationally, while their women's team is ranked 17th.



IVAN VALLADARES

Middlebury sophomore Kyle Schlanger '18 returns a shot against his Hamilton opponent last Saturday, March 12, at the Proctor Tennis Courts.

Women's Hockey Advances to NCAA Semifinal

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

attempt and scoring her team-leading 19th goal of the season.

The Panthers' hopes at advancing became more definite as the third period continued. With a power play at the 10:45 mark, Wardwell passed the puck to Winslow, whose attempt the Beacon goalie blocked, but Elizabeth Wulf '18 was there to put home the rebound. Wulf's goal, her sixth of the year, brought Middlebury's lead to 4-0 and sealed the deal on a ticket to the Final Four for the first time since 2013.

With Saturday's win, the team surpassed last year's finish, when they lost to Vermont rival Norwich in the quarterfinals. The Panthers' next opponent is top-ranked Plattsburgh State, whom they will play on Friday at 3:30 p.m. in Plattsburgh, N.Y.

The Panthers last faced Plattsburgh State on Jan. 12, losing 3-0 in a game dominated by the Cardinals. They nearly doubled the Panthers in shots on goal, 31-16. The Cardinals blanked Amherst 5-0 in the NCAA quarterfinals on Sunday, the same team the Panthers barely defeated 4-3 to take the NESCAC trophy.

"I think one of the biggest takeaways from the NESCAC final was the fact that we scored three goals and then gave up four straight goals and Amherst took the lead," Head Coach Bill Mandigo said. "The takeaway is that we scored two minutes after Amherst scored their fourth goal. It was a strength of character goal, a resilience goal. The team could have packed it in when Amherst took the lead, but they fought back."

The team will prepare for the Final Four "like we were preparing for any other game," Mandigo said.

The Panthers began the year with a

tough schedule, facing top-ranked opponents like Elmira and Norwich. But as of late, their run to the tournament has been nonstop. A surprisingly versatile freshman squad stepped up to the plate — or, rather, to the puck — and Winslow's impressive scoring skills and NESCAC accolades bolstered the Panthers to nine shutout victories.

For a team that lost the conference championship last year and still advanced one round in NAAs, this season is one of redemption. Plattsburgh State will be a formidable opponent, but Winslow and her teammates may prove tougher.

EDITORS' PICKS



WILL CASE (14-9, .608)



ANDREW RIGAS (39-28, .582)



REMO PLUNKETT (55-45, .550)



ALEX MORRIS (97-85, .532)



EMILY BUSTARD (65-68, .488)

Women's hockey: Will Midd beat top-ranked Plattsburgh State in the NCAA Semifinals?

YES

And en route to a national title!

NO

Yes, Midd has looked dominant, but it hasn't played Plattsburgh St. during this stretch, who has won its last six games 39-2.

YES

I think this is the year for them to go all the way.

NO

These are in my opinion the two best teams in the tournament, but I think Plattsburgh will come out on top.

YES

This team is unstoppable.

Women's lac: Closest to: Number of points scored by women's lacrosse player Mary O'Connell '17 in the team's home matchup vs. Wesleyan

SIX

She'll continue to build on a great start to the season.

FOUR

Laurel Pascal said it herself, the team just has so much depth.

SIX

@momOneyconnell dishes apples all day long!

TWELVE

She seems to be coming into her own this year.

FIVE

She's had a great start to the season, and Wesleyan is currently 0-2.

Tennis: Will either men's or women's tennis lose a match after winning all 36 last weekend?

NO

It will be tough as Wesleyan poses a bigger challenge than last week, but we are the class of the conference.

NO

Wesleyan is legit, plus they have the top ranked women's player in the nation.

YES

36 is a lot of matches. Calling team wins for both squads, though.

NO

They have a habit of not losing.

YES

It'd be great if they could keep that going, but this seems like a bit of a stretch.

Men's CBB: Will all four no. 1 seeds (Kansas, North Carolina, Oregon, Virginia) reach the Sweet Sixteen?

YES

The 8s and 9s don't look too strong this year.

YES

Although, I think Oregon could very well lose to St. Joe's, the A-10 is criminally underrated.

NO

It's called madness for a reason.

NO

There's bound to be an upset somewhere.

NO

Statistically this doesn't happen very often.



The Most All Americans in School History!

Men's DMR: Kevin Serrao '18, Tyler Farrell '18, Luke Carpinello '16, Sam Cartwright '16, time = 10:07.24, 8th place

Women's DMR: Nikki Schachman '16, Kate McCluskey '18, Lauren Bougioukas '16, Abigail Nadler '19, time = 11:50.96, 4th Place!

4x400m relay: Alex Morris '16, Jackie Kearney '16, Paige Fernandez '17, Lucy Lang '19, time = 3:53.15, 8th place

5K: Adrian Walsh '16, time = 17:10.78, 7th place, 1st Time All-American

400M: Alex Morris '16, time = 56.98, 8th place, 1st 400m All-American for Middlebury College, 5th time All-American

Panther Skiers Combine For Eleventh Place at NCAA Race

By Nicole Roos
Staff Writer

The Alpine and Nordic ski teams combined for an 11th place finish at the NCAA Championships this past weekend. The Colorado Buffaloes hosted the Championship in Steamboat Springs, Colo. on March 9-12. The Panthers finished in 11th out of the 21 teams total, with 133 points. Meanwhile, Denver's 567 points blew away the field on its way to the school's 23rd national title. Colorado (491) and Utah (485) joined Denver on the podium, while Montana State (406) was the first team off the podium. The University of Vermont finished in seventh-place with 310 points, which led all eastern squads.

The Alpine team kicked off the action with the giant slalom race on Wednesday, March 9. 34 men faced off in the first day of racing, including Panther junior Rob Cone '17, who was racing to defend his national title. While Cone was unfortunately unable to finish the race, sophomore Riley Plant '18 and junior Colin Hayes '17 were both able to finish in the top 15. Plant skied to 14th place, less than two seconds off the winning time, and Hayes finished just 0.17 seconds behind Plant for 15th. First-year racers Caroline Bartlett '19 and Lexi Calcagni '19 were the

only two Panther representatives on the women's side, competing against 32 other racers. Bartlett led the duo with a 19th-place effort, while Calcagni finished in 28th.

With the Panthers sitting in 10th place after the first day of the competition, the Nordic teams took to the trails at Howelsen Hill. Annie Pokorny '16 and Kelsey Phinney '16 served as the two Panther representatives on the women's side. Pokorny led the pack, finishing in 12th place overall and second among eastern skiers. Phinney took home 20th place overall among easterners. In the men's competition, the lone Panther representative was Patrick McElravey '17 who finished 28th overall and eighth among eastern skiers.

Heading into the third day of racing, the 11th-place Panthers were on the cusp of entering the top 10. Under the lights on the evening of Friday, March 11, the slalom team took to Howelsen Hill. Hayes led the men's squad, finishing in 18th overall. Plant and Cone were not far behind, placing 28th and 30th, respectively.

"As a whole, the team showed some strong moments and some weaker moments," Plant said of the championship weekend performances. "Colin and I were really happy to hold down

respectable finishes in the GS [Grand Slalom], especially after Rob's fall. We are certainly left wanting more, but our team is young so the motivation will carry into the next season really well."

On the women's side, Bartlett managed to finish 26th, 11 spots better than her first run position. Calcagni finished 31st overall.

Nordic action completed the Championships on Saturday, March 12, with the women's 15K and men's 20K classical events. In her last collegiate race, Pokorny was once again the first Panther to cross the finish line, grabbing the 19th position overall. Close behind was Phinney, who finished 21st. McElravey took 23rd in the men's competition.

"While I would say [they] put in a great effort, they unfortunately did not have their best showing," said Alpine Head Coach Steve Barlett. But even though last weekend's performance did not meet the team's high expectations, the team is optimistic about its future.

"On a positive note all five Alpine skiers and one Nordic are returning next year," said Barlett. "Our goal is to win a [combined, Alpine and Nordic] National Championship and this team is already working on that for the future."

WOMEN'S HOCKEY SET TO APPEAR IN FROZEN FOUR

By Ethan Brady
Features Editor

After winning the NESCAC title and advancing to the NCAA Tournament, the Middlebury women's hockey team defeated the University of Massachusetts Boston 4-0 in the quarterfinal round. The win was the Panthers' 10th straight — nine of which were shutouts — and 21st on the season, one more than last year and the most since the 2010-11 season when they won 25 times. The Panthers move on to face top-ranked Plattsburgh State (27-1-0) for the Final Four in Plattsburgh, N.Y., on Friday, March 14.

Middlebury dominated the first period, outshooting UMass Boston 12-2, but could not get the puck across the goal line. NESCAC player of the year Maddie Winslow '18 had a good look at 1:15 that went wide, and a strong attempt by Anna Van Kula '16 minutes later was broken up by Beacon goalie Rachel Myette. The Beacons had back-to-back attempts at the 6:40 mark, but Julia Neuburger '18 saved both.

In the same period, Allie Aiello '17 nearly netted her first of

the season, but Myette blocked the puck on a backhand. UMass Boston tried for another two opportunities, but the clock expired before either team could get on the scoreboard.

It was not until well into the second that the Panthers could translate their energy into a goal. Winslow, who has scored the game-winner in each of Middlebury's four post-season games, skated up the left wing and took a sharp pass from Jenna Marotta '19 before wristing a shot into the top-right corner of the net. The Panthers went on the power play at 18:59 in the second, but could not score and took their 1-0 lead into the final period.

A minute into the third, Winslow nearly struck again, but her shot was denied by the crossbar. Janka Hlinka '18 came in clutch at 1:54 from the left circle, giving the Panthers a 2-0 lead with her fourth goal on the season. At 3:42, Julia Wardwell '16 nearly made that a 3-0 lead on a shot from the left that hit the post. Winslow skated in to tip the shot netward, finishing Wardwell's

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